

# AFFORDABLE **ALL AUSSIE** STYLE homes +

READERS' HOMES + EXPERT TIPS + DIYs + SHOPPING + FOOD

## family style

how you can create a lovely home -  
readers share their tips

**WIN a  
\$30,000  
kitchen**

See pg 121

**50+  
GREAT  
buys**

(all \$30 and under)

**BATHROOM  
CHEAT SHEETS**

HOW TO get the most  
bang for your buck

### EASY DIY PROJECTS

- \* Comfy beanbag
- \* Coiled-rope mat
- \* Kitchen gadget holder
- \* Magazine rack
- \* Laundry bin

WIN ONE OF 7 FAMILY STAYS IN THE AUSSIE HOLIDAY HOME OF YOUR CHOICE!

easy DIY projects



buyer's  
guide



quick meals



make it!  
terrariums



\$5000 exterior  
reno



scotty's DIY



THE EXPERTS

CHERIE BARBER + JAMES TREBLE + DALE VINE + DR LISA CHIMES + SCOTTY CAM



before & after

# new dream kitchens

before

After the purchase of their inner city townhouse, Jack and Ali took on a complete renovation and transformed their older style kitchen into a contemporary masterpiece. Their goal was to be clever with their space and add an element of functionality to their kitchen.

## plan

**ali** "We were always going to have a small kitchen so it was important to enhance our storage space by making our kitchen more usable. A galley-style kitchen layout was the way to go from the beginning!"

**jack** "Because our townhouse was so old, none of the walls were square. This meant we had to be extra diligent with our measurements so that everything would line up correctly."

## select

**ali** "To add warmth into the overall design, we decided on a country profile for the cabinet doors. A Yamaroo benchtop seemed like the perfect choice since it tied in with our polished concrete floor and provided a nice contrast to the Vanilla Essence doors. Drawers were added onto the island for functionality as well as a few wire baskets for easy access."

**jack** "I knew the matt black Mushroom Knob handles would look great with the black fittings we selected. We wanted to tap into a design style that was traditional, yet mixed with a touch of industrial style."

## create

**jack** "The cut to measure benchtop service was a lifesaver. We provided Bunnings with our benchtop measurements and through the service, our benchtop was then cut to size for us. The most challenging part of the whole process was installing it up to our wonky walls, but we got there in the end!"

**ali** "Instead of using traditional wall cabinets, we ended up making open shelves that allowed light to seep through. Plywood from Bunnings was used to create the panels surrounding the fridge and the island end panel."

## enjoy!

**ali** "It feels great waking up each morning and cooking brekkie in our amazing new kitchen! The whole room is constantly filled with light and we're so happy that our mortgage didn't get in the way of us creating our designer kitchen."

**jack** "It's definitely a big change to what we saw the first time we walked through the door ..."

after



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KITCHEN





after

*"It feels great waking up each morning and cooking brekkie in our amazing new kitchen! The whole room is constantly filled with light and we're so happy that our mortgage didn't get in the way of us creating our designer kitchen."*



# HOMES + CONTENTS

( AFFORDABLE, EASY, DOABLE )



## EVERY ISSUE

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Meet our talented homeowners and **homes+** experts.

### 8 VIEWA

Get **extra content** on your phone or tablet.

### ON THE COVER

This month, we meet Amy O'Mara, her husband Pete and their two kids Axel, two, and Priscilla, six months. Amy and Pete have turned their home in Sydney's Northern Beaches into a **spacious and colourful haven**.

### WELCOME TO HOMES+

Style is for everyone and your home is all about making you happy. Say hello to **homes+** – a magazine that delivers accessible, practical and easy ideas that we hope will brighten your month. – The **homes+** team.



## PRACTICAL IDEAS

### 18 MAKE IT!

See how **paint tins can be transformed five ways** – into a bench, a side table, a metallic pendant light, planter pots, or even small, colour-coordinated storage tins to keep your things organised. These projects are easy to make yourself and start from only \$3.80 – what a bargain!

### 20 EASY DIY

Need a creative outlet? Get your DIY on and make a copper magazine rack to store and display your mags, a large rope mat, an extremely handy kitchen-gadget holder, laundry bins to sort your washing out, and a bright and comfy beanbag that will be perfect for the kids. **Each project is practical and easy to make** and the best part is they won't blow the budget.



## BARGAIN BUYS

### 29 \$30 & UNDER

We've uncovered a **treasure trove of beautiful objects for each room of your home** including the bedroom, bathroom, lounge and kitchen – and all of them with an affordable price tag. Choose from contemporary, classic, beachy or country – whatever suits your style!

### 98 BEST BUYS

This month we're bringing you the **best vacuums** on the market so your home can be **clean and dust-free at all times**. From upright or bagless, to stick vacuums and even compact handheld designs, we've got your housework sorted.



## READER HOMES

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Amy O'Mara's modern home in Sydney is filled with bright colours and bold pieces. She took a neutral backdrop and layered it with her own **fresh and vibrant style**.

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### 54 COUNTRY

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With only a few minor changes, a **timeless terrace in Melbourne** has proved to be the perfect home for Carmel Membery and her family.





## EASY FOOD



## BEFORE & AFTER RENOS



## MY BACKYARD



## PLUS LOADS MORE

### 71 MEAL PLANNER

Feeling frazzled at the end of a busy day doesn't help when you're thinking about what you're going to cook for dinner. That's where we come in. We've taken the headache out of mealtimes with our **monthly meal planner**. Broken down into weeks, the planner will do all the work for you. Your family will thank you for it, we promise.

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A **step-by-step guide** to making a delicious apple tart. Perfect for afternoon tea with friends or as a special dessert for the family, this simple treat will be sure to satisfy any sweet tooth.

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Barry Du Bois helps Bhakti and Manan **zone out their open-plan home in Sydney** and turn it into a stylish space that reflects the couple's Indian heritage.

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Sarà Lanesman didn't know what to do with her monochromatic living room that lacked in personality. That's where **Super Stylist Jackie came to the rescue** to give the space the injection of colour it needed with \$1000 worth of product that Sarà could keep.

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Where to buy what you love from this issue.



READER HOMES



\$99

HANGING AROUND

"I chose the **Noble pendants** from **Freedom** for above the dining table – they match the black iron sideboard that's in the same space."

AMY O'MARA – SEE PAGE 38



\$69

BEACHY SEATS

"Our **Replica Eames 'DSW' dining chairs** are from **Sokol**. We chose the white and blue colours as they represent a beachy look."

MAREE NICOLACI – SEE PAGE 46



\$14.99

PRETTY & FUNCTIONAL

"All our beds are swathed with white **Bryne mosquito nets** from **Ikea** – a must to keep the creepy crawlies out, but they look lovely, too."

LISA DYCE – SEE PAGE 54



\$9.99

ON THE TABLE

"We have two **Lack side tables** from **Ikea** with baskets underneath hiding Hudson's toys. We made another into an activity table for him."

CARMEL MEMBERY – SEE PAGE 62

READERS AND EXPERTS

# IN THIS ISSUE

homes+ readers and the experts reveal their favourite products

THE EXPERTS

THE **CLIMACOTTO HEX GRIGIO** TILES BY DI LORENZO ARE AMAZING! THEY'RE HANDMADE AND PRESSED INTO HEXAGON MOULDS USING VOLCANIC ROCK FROM MOUNT ETNA, SICILY. YOU CAN EVEN SEE THE FINGER MARKS IN THE FINISHED TILE.

(see page 116)

JAMES TREBLE



(see page 122)

**POUR-ON RESIN** is a great cost-effective alternative for when your budget doesn't allow for the installation of a concrete driveway. I've used this product in several of my low-budget cosmetic renovations. It's super easy to DIY, saving you both time and money.

CHERIE BARBER

TOILET TRAINING PUPPIES IS MADE EASY WITH THE ABSORBENT AND LEAKPROOF **PETLIFE HOUSE-TRAINING MATS**. THEY CONTAIN A NATURAL PUPPY ATTRACTANT TO HELP YOUR PUPPY FIND THE SPOT. THEY ARE ALSO MADE WITH AN ODOUR NEUTRALISER TO KEEP YOUR HOME SMELLING FRESH AT ALL TIMES.

DR LISA CHIMES

(see page 125)



(see page 126)

EVERYONE SHOULD HAVE a **DeWalt 18V li-ion cordless jigsaw** in their workshop.

I use the jigsaw for all of my DIY projects. It'll be on sale for March 4 to March 15, for \$239. Grab yours from [Shop.mitre10.com.au](http://Shop.mitre10.com.au)

SCOTTY CAM



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( VIDEO, PHOTOS, SHOPPING )



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anywhere you are!



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5 cool and stylish pieces **p15**

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### SHOP THE PAGE NOW!

Buy a bunch of items off the page **from p31**

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Loads of amazing prizes up for  
grabs – enter now to win! **p128**



### ALL-IN-ONE

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# PLUS *receive a free gift*



## SUBSCRIBE THIS MONTH

and receive this 5-in-1 infusion pitcher set. A must-have for the kitchen, the set includes a pitcher, fruit infuser, brewing filter, ice chiller, juicer and storage canister.

Brew it, flavour it or chill it in this multi-purpose pitcher. Whether you're making coffee or tea, infusing fresh fruit flavours into water, infusing mint or lavender into lemonade, or chilling mojitos for entertaining, this is an eco-friendly alternative to infused bottled beverages.

## EACH SET INCLUDES

- Pitcher
- Brewing filter
- Fruit infuser
- Juicer
- Ice chiller
- Canister lid

THIS MULTI-PURPOSE PITCHER HAS 5 DIFFERENT FUNCTIONS & USES



INFUSER



BREWING FILTER



CHILLER



JUICER



STORAGE CANISTER



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# SPOTLIGHT

## colour home

YOUR

## WITH SPOTLIGHT!

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RANGE



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# PRACTICAL IDEAS

( AFFORDABLE, EASY, DOABLE )

REINVENT  
A PAINT  
TIN  
5 CRAFTY  
WAYS!

**UPCYCLE PAINT TINS** that you may have lying around and have fun creating any of these five projects. Alternatively, you can buy empty tins online.

Empty **paint tins**: \$2.80 for 500ml, \$3 for 1L, \$4 for 2L, \$5 for 4L, and 20L **drum** with metal bung, lid and locking ring, \$30, from Smash Supplies. Also see [Thepackagingshop.com.au](http://Thepackagingshop.com.au) ▶

#### Mix it up

Some paint tins have ridges, some are smooth.

#### Getting started

Make sure the tins you use are clean and free of dried-up drips of paint.

**THIS MONTH** TRANSFORM OLD PAINT TINS & DO OUR EASY DIY PROJECTS



## DIY IDEAS

# TAKE ONE PAINT TIN

Have fun turning **empty paint tins** into good-looking, practical pieces for the home. Note: project prices include the cost of purchasing tins.

**BENCH**  
**\$98.62**



**STEP ONE** Paint the plank and let dry. We used about 250ml of a whitewash paint. You could use a sample pot or leftover paint from another project.

**STEP TWO** Position the tins, upright with lids on, side by side about a metre apart. Position the plank over the tins. Measure 20cm in from the short edge of the plank at one end and line the edge of the tin up against this position (as shown in main picture), making sure the tin is centred under the plank. Repeat at the other end.

**STEP THREE** At one end, measure 35cm in from the short edge of the

**YOU WILL NEED** 285MM X 19MM X 1.8M PINE WOOD PLANK; PAINT; PAINTBRUSH; 2 X 20L PAINT TINS WITH LIDS; MEASURING TAPE; PENCIL; DRILL; NUTS AND BOLTS

plank and at this point, mark the centre of the plank. From here, make marks either side 5cm towards the longer ends. Repeat at the other end.

**STEP FOUR** At each of the 5cm marks, drill a hole through the plank down through the paint tin lid. Make sure you keep the drill vertical – get a friend to hold the plank steady if you need to. Be careful not to move the plank or your holes will be out of alignment. Insert a bolt through each hole. Flip the plank and lids over and screw a nut onto each bolt. Flip the plank right side up and position the lids over the tins. ▶

**FOR PROJECT** Dressed-pine premium-grade FSC **timber** (285mm x 19mm x 1.8m), \$28.80, from Bunnings. 20L **drums** with metal bung, lid and locking ring, \$30 each, from Smash Supplies. Timber painted in Wood Wash **paint** in Paper, \$47.30 for 1L, from Porter's Paints.

**IN THE PICTURE** Curio "Bunny" **chairs** in Light Grey, \$225 each, from Clickon Furniture. Kinloch **dining table**, \$699, from Freedom. ON BENCH Velvet **cushions** in Mustard and Teal, \$34.95 each, from Freedom. ON TABLE Flannel Heath linen **tablecloth** in Harbour Mist, \$129, from Utopia Goods. Stockholm **carafe**, \$9.99, and Stockholm **glasses**, \$6.99 for 2, from Ikea. Jett **dinner plates** in Midnight Blue, \$7.95 each, Jett **bowls** in Jade and Canary, \$5.95 each, and Jett **serving bowl** in Midnight Blue, \$29.95, from Freedom. Sierra chevron ceramic **vase**, \$10, from Target. IN VASE **Foliage** from Poho Flowers. ON WALL Haymes Interior Expressions low sheen acrylic **paint** in Rainy Day, \$38.95 for 1L, and panelling painted in Haymes Interior Expressions low sheen acrylic **paint** in Atlantis Sky, \$38.95 for 1L, from Haymes Paint. Lisa T Rock "XO" **print**, \$20, and **Wall Words** in Forever, \$7.50, from Target.



**DIFFICULTY RATING CHART** ➤ EASY AS 1, 2, 3 ➤➤ A BIT HARDER ➤➤➤ GET A FRIEND TO HELP YOU



**HOW-TO VIDEO**

Use the free **viewa** app to scan this page and see the essential steps for making these paint-tin projects.

XO  
forever



**GREAT  
IDEA**  
cushion  
tops

**Keep it real**  
20-litre paint  
tins are just the  
right height for  
a bench.



## SIDE TABLE

### \$54.19



**STEP ONE** Paint the MDF panel and tin in colours of your choice. We used Haymes paint in Rainy Day for the MDF, and Dulux spray-paint in Deep Ocean for the tin. Leave to dry.

**STEP TWO** Using measuring tape and pencil, measure diagonally across the piece of MDF and mark the mid point. With a 35cm x 35cm MDF square, the mid point is 24.75cm. At this 24.75cm point, measure 5cm on either side on the diagonal and mark.

**STEP THREE** Place board, centred, on top of the tin. Use a drill to make holes at the two marked points on either

**YOU WILL NEED** MDF PIECE (35CM X 35CM); 1 X 20L PAINT TIN WITH LID; PAINTS; HOT-GLUE GUN

side of the centrepunt on the MDF, and through to the tin lid.

**STEP FOUR** Insert bolts through MDF and lid. Turn both pieces upside down and screw on the nuts to fasten. Turn right side up and fit onto tin.

**STEP FIVE** To decorate, wrap a strip of hessian – or any fabric you like – around the top section of the tin and hot-glue in place. (It looks best under the lower ridge.) Alternatively you could paint a stripe in another colour around the perimeter, paint a flower, words, whatever you like!

**FOR PROJECT** Custom Wood **MDF panel** (900mm x 600mm x 6mm), \$6.75, from Bunnings (cut to approx. 35cm x 35cm). 20L **drum** with metal bung, lid and locking ring, \$30, from Smash Supplies. Premium **hessian roll** (14m x 5m), \$7.99, from Lincraft (we cut a thin strip out of it). MDF painted in Haymes Interior Expressions low sheen acrylic **paint** in Rainy Day, \$38.95 for 1L, from Haymes Paint. Tin painted in Dulux Metalshield **spray-paint** in Deep Ocean, \$12.95, from Bunnings. **IN THE PICTURE** Astrid **chair** in Dexter Zest, \$399, from Freedom. ON CHAIR Ormhassel **throw** in Grey, \$29.99, from Ikea. ON TABLE Bloomingville ceramic **vase** in Mint, \$34, from Designstuff. Fargrik **side plate** in Green, \$2.49, and Stockholm **glass**, \$6.99 for 2, from Ikea. IN VASE Green kangaroo paw **plant** from Poho Flowers. ON WALL Haymes Interior Expressions low sheen acrylic **paint** in Atlantis Sky, \$38.95 for 1L, from Haymes Paint. ON FLOOR Tjareby flatwoven **rug** in Blue (170cm x 240cm), \$229, from Ikea.

### TIP

You can also use this table as storage just by lifting the lid – who doesn't need extra storage?

**Finishing touch** A piece of hessian ribbon adds tone and texture.







**GREAT  
IDEA**  
timber dowel  
hanger

**YOU WILL NEED** DOWEL; PAINT TINS;  
DRILL; S-HOOKS; SPRAY-PAINT  
IN VARIOUS COLOURS

## STORAGE **TIN \$5.94**

**STEP ONE** Hang the dowel in your chosen position. (You could hang the dowel using large S-hooks inserted into holes you've made into the pegboard.) Use a drill to make a hole on the top side of each paint tin, just under the rim. This will be where the S-hook will hang from, so make sure the hole is big enough for the hook to fit into.

**STEP TWO** Use spray-paint in different colours to paint tins. We painted ours in a dusky green, a bright yellow, a dark blue and gold. Leave to dry.

**STEP THREE** Insert S-hooks into holes and hang tins in place. ➤

**FOR PROJECT** Empty 1L **paint tins**, \$3 each, from Smash Supplies. Zenith zinc-plate **S-hooks** (75mm x 7.6mm), \$2.44 each, Porta clear pine **dowel** (12mm x 1.2m), \$3.06, tins painted in White Knight "Touch Up" **spray-paint** in Pale Eucalypt, \$11.50, White Knight "Squirts" **spray-paint** in Golden Yellow, \$7.45, Dulux "Metalshield" **spray-paint** in Deep Ocean, \$12.95, and Dulux "Duramax" **spray-paint** in Bright Gold, \$19.90, from Bunnings. **IN THE PICTURE** ON WALL Masonite **pegboard** (1830mm x 915mm x 3mm), \$25, from Bunnings. Pegboard painted in Haymes Interior Expressions low sheen acrylic **paint** in Atlantis Sky, \$38.95 for 1L, from Haymes Paint. ON BENCH Premium BC plywood **panel** (1220mm x 810mm x 3mm), \$9, assorted **nails/bolts**, assorted **tape**, and assorted **paintbrushes**, from Bunnings. **Pencils** are from our office.

**Sorted!**  
Colour-code  
tins with  
paint for  
different uses.





# PENDANT LIGHT \$18.53



**STEP ONE** Turn the paint tin upside down. With a measuring tape and marker, measure and mark where the middle point sits on the base of tin. (With a 4-litre tin, the middle point is 8.75cm.)

**STEP TWO** Use your drill to make a hole at the marked centrepont. Make sure the hole is large enough for a mini hacksaw to fit into.

**STEP THREE** Insert hacksaw into hole and cut four slits that are spaced out evenly from the hole.

**STEP FOUR** Use pliers to peel back the metal to create a hole that is wide enough for the light bulb attachment to fit into. Feed the light bulb attachment through the hole, hold attachment tightly in place and use pliers to fold the metal back. This will hold the light attachment down.

**STEP FIVE** Turn tin right side up. Pull attachment cord through to attach the light fitting.

**STEP SIX** Screw light bulb in place.

**STEP SEVEN** Decorate tin as you like. We used copper-coloured wrapping paper and added a blue paper strip, finishing it off with a thin ombre ribbon in the centre. You'll need an electrician to safely attach the light into your ceiling.



## You did it!

Use inexpensive wrapping paper to create custom lighting designs.

**YOU WILL NEED** 4L PAINT TIN; DRILL; MINI HACKSAW; PLIERS; PENDANT-LIGHT SUSPENSION KIT; LIGHT BULB; WRAPPING PAPER/RIBBON, TO DECORATE

**FOR PROJECT** Empty 4L **paint tin**, \$5, from Smash Supplies. Brilliant D.I.Y. white pendant-light **suspension kit**, \$6.90, and Brilliant 25W A60 **globe**, \$4.80, from Bunnings. Paint tin wrapped in Vintermys **giftwrap** in Copper, \$2.99, from Ikea; Colorline 300GSM A4 **coloured card** in Royal Blue, \$1.05, from Eckersley's Art & Craft; Wired ribbon in Light Blue to Navy Blue Ombre, \$13.20 for 9.1 m, from Etsy.

**IN THE PICTURE** X pen acrylic clear **cup**, \$8.99, X small acrylic clear **desk riser**, \$9.99, Quill metallique C6 **envelopes** in Silver Shadow, \$5.41 for 10, Celco **paperclips** in Gold, \$7.48 for 600, and assorted **stationery**, from Officeworks. Hay "Kaleido" small **tray** in Blue, \$50, from Designstuff. **String tidy**, \$32, from Heaven In Earth. Round The World large **globe**, \$49.95, from Typo. ON WALL Haymes Interior Expressions low sheen acrylic **paint** in Simply Elegant, \$42.95 for 1L, from Haymes Paint.

## TIP

For another design, punch holes in different patterns onto the tin using a nail and hammer.





## PLANTER POT

### \$3.80 FOR SMALL

**STEP ONE** Turn the paint tin upside down and use a drill to create three small, evenly spaced holes at the bottom of the tin for drainage.

**STEP TWO** Turn paint tin right side up and fill the bottom of the tin with potting mix. Press mix down gently to create room for your plant.

**STEP THREE** Pull the plant carefully out of its original pot and insert into tin. Press plant down slightly and fill the top with remaining soil.

**STEP FOUR** Decorate your paint tin. We chose wrapping papers and assorted fabrics that we secured in place with twine and string. **»**

**FOR PROJECT** Empty **paint tins**: \$2.80 for 500ml, \$3 for 1L, \$4 for 2L, \$5 for 4L, from Smash Supplies. Paint tins wrapped in Premium **hessian roll** (14m x 5m), \$7.99, Sandwashed **linen** in Natural, \$16.99 a m, and Stripemania Nautical **fabric** in Navy, \$9.99 a m, from Lincraft. Ohio ticking **fabric** in Black, \$53 a m, from No Chintz. Colorline 300GSM A4 **coloured card** in Royal Blue & White, \$1.05 each, from Eckersley's Art & Craft. Gold spot cut-outs of Vintermys **giftwrap** in Copper, \$2.99, from Ikea. **Corrugated paper** is packing from a parcel. Simplicity **twisted cord** in Silver, \$3.99 a m, from Spotlight. Whites outdoor jute **twine plant tie**, \$5.97, from Bunnings.

**IN THE PICTURE** Handy Storage 4-shelf **storage unit** (1370mm x 710mm x 310mm), \$39.98, and **plants** from Bunnings. ON UNIT Spear & Jackson **hand cultivator**, \$3.98, Spear & Jackson **hand trowel**, \$3.98, and Home Leisure "Replicotta" square plastic **pot**, \$3.18, from Bunnings. Small marble **pot**, \$95, from The Minimalist. Creamore Mill **hardwood dibber**, \$10, from Heaven In Earth. Haws "Handy Can" **watering can** in Duck Egg Blue, \$22, from Quality Products Direct. ON WALL Haymes Interior Expressions low sheen acrylic **paint** in Rainy Day, \$38.95 for 1L, from Haymes Paint.



#### Water catcher

Hide a saucer underneath the plant to catch any water drips.

**GREAT  
IDEA**  
steel plant  
shelf

#### YOU WILL NEED

PAINT TINS;  
POTTING MIX;  
DIGGING TROWEL;  
READY-TO-POT  
PLANTS; FABRIC/  
RIBBON/TWINE/  
WRAPPING PAPER,  
TO DECORATE





MAKE IT YOURSELF

# 5 EASY STEP-BY-STEP DIY PROJECTS

Give your home a whole new look with these **practical and creative** projects. Note: some of the pricings include tools, so if you already have them, the projects will cost less.

## 1 MAGAZINE RACK \$30.51

**STEP ONE** Using the measuring tape and marker, measure and mark the copper tube 50cm along, then measure and mark another 50cm along, so that your tube is divided into thirds.

**STEP TWO** Use the tube cutter to cut along one of the marks on the tube and then again on the second mark. You will now have three 50cm tubes.

**STEP THREE** Use sandpaper or a deburring tool (some tube cutters have one attached) to smooth the tube edges.

**STEP FOUR** Take a length of string (we used a piece roughly 3m in length) and thread through the ring so that it sits at the centrepoint of the string. Wrap

**YOU WILL NEED** 1.5-METRE LENGTH OF COPPER TUBE; MEASURING TAPE; PERMANENT MARKER; TUBE CUTTER; SANDPAPER (SUITABLE FOR USE ON SOFT METAL) OR A DEBURRING TOOL; SILVER RING; STRING; SAFETY PIN; HOT-GLUE GUN; SCISSORS

the string around the ring a few times and tie a knot underneath to secure.

**STEP FIVE** Take the two pieces of string (hanging from the ring) and feed one piece through one end of a tube until it comes out the other end, then feed the other piece through the opposite end of the tube. You may find it easier to attach safety pins to the ends of the string to create a weight. Pull the string ends out all the way.

**STEP SIX** Next feed the two pieces of string through the ends of the second tube in exactly the same way as you did in step 5. Allow roughly 35cm between each tube, vertically.

**STEP SEVEN** For the third tube, thread one of the pieces of string through one end of the tube and out the other end. Pull the copper tube back along the string a little and tie the two pieces of string together. You will probably need to adjust the string so that it is evenly spaced between each tube before tying that final knot. Slide the copper tube to the centre again and the knot should be hidden.

**STEP EIGHT** Use a hot-glue gun to hold the string in place at the ends of each tube. Leave to dry, then hang and fill with your fave magazines. It could also be used for hanging scarves, etc. ▶

**FOR PROJECT** Grunt cotton shop **twine** (300m), \$9.98, straight length **copper tube**, \$12 for 1.5m, and Haron **tube cutter**, \$17.50, from Bunnings. Metal silver **ring** (50mm), \$1.99 for 2, from Spotlight. **IN THE PICTURE** Table **clock** in Grey, \$30, from Target. Bloomingville **ceramic vase** in Mint, \$34, and Foekje Fleur **porcelain vase** #5 in Yellow, \$66, from Designstuff. **Copper vase**, \$50, and kangaroo paw **flowers**, from Poho Flowers. Nolan glass **cloche** (28cm), \$44.95, and Winston gem **statue** in Honeydew, \$10.39, from Freedom. ON RACK **Magazines** from our office. ON WALL Metal Spirit 2016 **wallpaper** (53cm x 10m), \$89.95 a roll, from Eurowalls.

**DIFFICULTY RATING CHART** ▶ EASY AS 1, 2, 3 ▶▶ A BIT HARDER ▶▶▶ GET A FRIEND TO HELP YOU





1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



### SEE STEP-BY-STEP

Use the free **viewa** app to scan this page to see step-by-step videos of how to make these projects



### Piping up

While the copper tubing looks beautiful, steel, bamboo or even a mixture could be used instead. It just needs to be tubular.



**ONLINE**  
For more DIY  
project ideas and  
features head  
to our website  
[homesplusmag.com.au](http://homesplusmag.com.au)



#### YOU WILL NEED

30M LENGTH OF THICK COTTON ROPE  
OR CORD (WE USED 2 X 15M LENGTHS);  
HOT-GLUE GUN; EXTRA GLUE STICKS

## 2 ROPE MAT \$57.36



**STEP ONE** Take one end of the first 15m length of cord and apply a line of glue using the hot glue gun. Begin to coil the rope a little and press firmly to allow the glue to hold this first part of the coil.

**STEP TWO** Continue coiling the cord around, applying a little glue to the rope approximately every 10-15cm. Make sure you keep the coil taut as you don't want any gaps when you reach the end. Once all rope is coiled, glue the end to the next 15m length of rope (if using two pieces) and continue to coil.

**STEP THREE** Glue the end piece to the coil. Press down firmly on top of the finished coil to smooth and flatten. Leave to dry.

**FOR PROJECT** 2 x Grunt sash cords (8mm x 15m), \$17.50 each, and Crescent 60W/230V glue gun kit, \$22.36, from Bunnings.

**IN THE PICTURE** Bensimon spot classic sneakers, \$81, from The Iconic. Flowers, from Poho Flowers. Totes carry bag in Teal, \$29.95, from Freedom. ON WALL Interior Expressions low sheen acrylic paint in Rainy Day, \$38.95 for 1L, from Haymes Paint.

#### Fancy footwork

This round mat is big enough to be used as a doormat, but if you use less cord you can also make placemats.



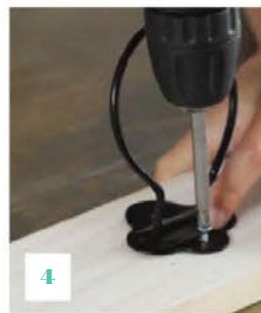
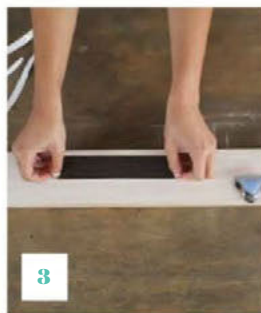
## YOU WILL NEED

SAW; LENGTH OF TIMBER (WE USED DRESSED PINE); WHITEWASH PAINT; PAINTBRUSH; DRILL; 4.5MM DRILL BIT; MAGNETIC TAPE; SCREWS; MAGNETIC LETTER CLIP (TO HOLD PAPER); ROUND TOOL HOLDER; UTENSIL CUP OR GLASS



## Border line

We added a stylish border using some leftover bathroom tiles, secured to the wall with tile adhesive.



## 3 KITCHEN GADGET HOLDER \$32.50



**STEP ONE** Cut the timber to size (ours was 60cm long) and paint the timber with wood-wash paint (or any paint you like) and leave to dry.

**STEP TWO** Cut two 20cm strips and two 3cm strips (for attaching letter clip) of magnetic tape and put to one side.

**STEP THREE** Position your nail, letter clip, 20cm strips of magnetic tape and round tool holder on the timber, making sure they are evenly spaced. You can place the items in any order you like.

**STEP FOUR** Next, fix each item to the

timber. Hammer in the nail, but not all the way; stick two 3cm pieces of magnetic tape onto the timber for the magnetic letter clip to attach to; stick the two 20cm lengths of magnetic tape in place to be used as a knife holder; and screw the round tool holder in place using drill.

**STEP FIVE** Screw the timber to the wall in desired position. Now hang a bottle opener from the screw, attach letter clip and knives to the magnetic tape and insert utensils cup. ▶

**FOR PROJECT** Dressed FSC pine **timber** (285mm x 19mm x 1.8m; we only used half of it), \$28.80, Magic Mounts **magnetic tape** (76.2cm x 1.27cm), \$5.56, and Romak pegboard circular **tool holder**, \$2.78, from Bunnings. **Nail** (to hang bottle opener) and **screws** (to hold tool holder and attach board to wall). Carl MC56 small magnetic letter **clip** in Blue, \$8.61, from Officeworks. Wood Wash **paint** in Paper, \$47.30 for 1L, from Porter's Paints.

**IN THE PICTURE** Anchor **bottle opener**, \$18, and **pastry brush**, \$14, from Williams-Sonoma. Andlig 3-piece **knife set**, \$7.99, and Godis **glass**, \$9.99 for 6, from Ikea. Normann Copenhagen **whisk**, \$25, from Designstuff. Sharpie **marker**, \$2.11, from Officeworks. ON WALL Interior Expressions low sheen acrylic **paint** in Simply Elegant, \$42.95 for 1L, from Haymes Paint. Ceramic wall quilt **tiles** in Dark Grey, Blue and White, \$1 each, from Angus & Celeste.



# 4 BEANBAG \$65.54



**STEP ONE** Fold the calico in half so it measures 90cm x 120cm and sew along the longer open edge and one of the short edges with a sewing machine.

**STEP TWO** Turn the fabric right-side out and fill with beanbag filling.

It needs to be at least two-thirds full.

**STEP THREE** Pulling the opening of the bag in the opposite direction to the bottom of the bag (the two fabric seams should meet in the middle), pin along the edge, then sew shut.

**STEP FOUR** Take the throw (this will be the cover) and fold exactly the same way as the calico in step one so it now

measures 90cm x 120cm. Again, sew along the longer open edge and one of the short open edges. Stuff the filled lining into the cover, then fold the remaining open edge in the same way as the calico in "step three".

**STEP FIVE** Fold pleather strip in half to make a loop. Insert the loop into the open edge of fabric next to one of the corners (this will be a handle). Holding the loop in place, sew along the open edge of fabric, stopping after the loop.

**STEP SIX** Place Velcro along the rest of the opening and sew in place. Stick the Velcro together to close the beanbag. ➤

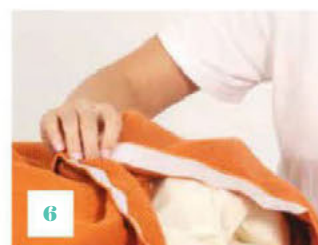
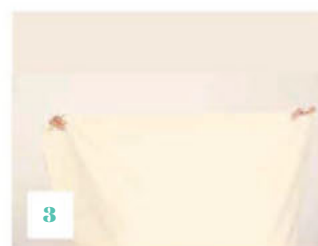
**FOR PROJECT** Henrika **throw** in Dark Orange, \$34.99, from Ikea. **Calico fabric** in Natural, \$4.49 a m, and **pleather fabric** in Bottle, \$19.99 a m, from Lincraft. Velcro **hook-and-loop strips** in White (20mm x 1.8m), \$18.97, and Esselte **safety pins**, \$3.86 for 60, from Officeworks. **Beanbag beans** (100L), \$12, from Kmart. **IN THE PICTURE** Velvet **cushion** in Seafoam, \$34.95, from Freedom. Färgrik **plate** in Green, \$3.99, from Ikea. Bazaar **pouf** in Platinum, \$299, from West Elm. Bloomingville denim-plaited floor **rug**, \$169, from Designstuff. **ON BEANBAG** Ormhassel **throw** in Grey, \$29.99, from Ikea. **ON RUG** Alseda banana fibre **stool**, \$59, from Ikea. **ON WALL** Interior Expressions low sheen acrylic **paint** in Simply Elegant, \$42.95 for 1L, from Haymes Paint. Metal Spirit 2016 **wallpaper** (10m x 53cm), \$89.95 a roll, from Eurowalls.

## Sitting pretty

Beanbags make for versatile furniture in any room. You could use a fun printed fabric for a kid's room.

## YOU WILL NEED

THROW (120CM X 180CM); CALICO FABRIC (120CM X 180CM); BEANBAG FILLING; SEWING MACHINE; THREAD; STRIP OF PLEATHER (25CM X 5CM); VELCRO; PINS





**YOU WILL NEED**

GARBAGE BIN (WE USED A 55L SIZE); WHITE SPRAY-PAINT; DRILL; 4.5MM DRILL BIT; 4 X CASTOR WHEELS (40MM); 16 NUTS AND BOLTS (3/16" X 15MM); COTTON FABRIC (APPROX. 125CM X 55CM); SEWING MACHINE; THREAD

# 5 LAUNDRY BINS

**\$57.67**

**STEP ONE** Cover the work surface with newspaper, then place your bin on top and apply spray-paint. Allow to dry and spray again, if necessary.

**STEP TWO** To make the liner, fold the fabric in half and line up all the edges.

**STEP THREE** Using a sewing machine, sew along the longer open edge, then one of the short open edges. Turn the liner the right side out.

**STEP FOUR** Turn the bin upside down and position the castors on the base, making sure they're evenly spaced. Drill through each hole of the castors and insert bolts into the holes. Flip the bin on its side so you can reach inside to screw the nuts onto the bolts.

**STEP FIVE** Flip the bin again, insert lining and fold over the rim of the bin. ■

**FOR PROJECT** QiQ-Tidy bins, \$34 for 55L, and \$40 for 75L, from Bunnings. Ambassador white plastic heavy-duty castors, \$3.93 each, from Bunnings. Fiddly Bits spray paint in Gloss White, \$2.95, from Bunnings. Polypop fabric in White, \$3.98 a m, from Lincraft.

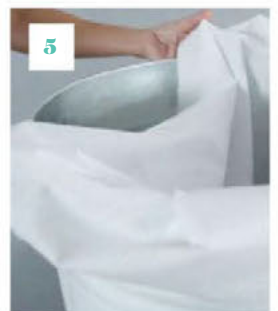
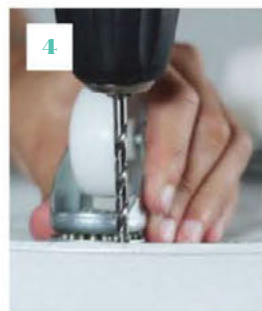
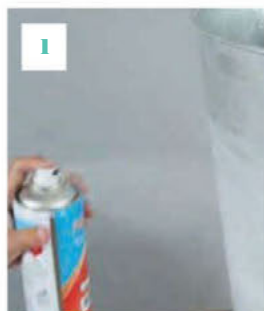
**IN THE PICTURE** ON WALL Ekby Lerberg brackets in White, \$5 each, and Ekby Tryggve softwood shelf, \$9.99, from Ikea. Interior Expressions low sheen acrylic paint in Rainy Day, \$38.95 for 1L, and panelling painted in Interior Expressions low sheen acrylic paint in Atlantis Sky, \$38.95 for 1L, from Haymes Paint. ON SHELF Philips steam iron, \$79.95, from The Good Guys. Peg tin, \$7, from Kmart. Garment Groom stain remover & refresher spray, \$12.95, Murchison-Hume. Clothes pegs, \$1.30 for 24, from Bunnings.

**TIP**

To make the liner more secure, use Velcro to fasten the top of the liner to the bin.

**Wheely good idea**

If you make more than one laundry bin, you could paint on useful "Lights" and "Darks" labels like we did.







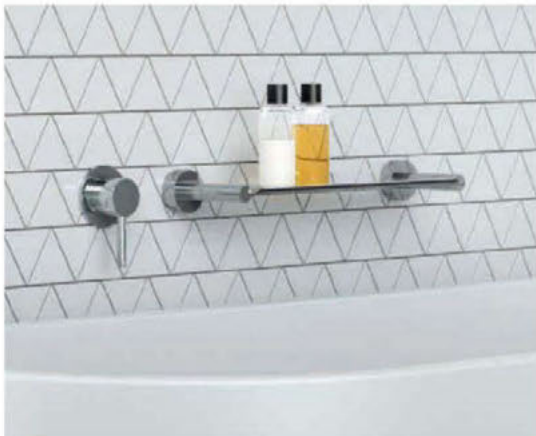




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# BARGAIN BUYS SHOPPING

( FAB FINDS TO SUIT YOUR STYLE )

**BUDGET  
BUYS  
\$30  
AND UNDER  
FOR YOUR  
HOME!**

**Colour injection**  
Don't be afraid  
to mix and match  
bright colours.

**Bold style**

Create a statement  
by using cushions  
with cool textures  
and patterns.

**ON-TREND COMFORT**

FROM TOP Herringbone  
print **cushion** in Yellow, \$15,  
and Cockatoo print **cushion**,  
\$25, from Target. The Hall  
“Daily” **cushion**, \$24.95, from  
Typo. Herringbone print  
**cushion** in Yellow, as above.  
Gullklocka **cushion cover** in  
Yellow, \$10, from Ikea. ▶

**THIS MONTH** LIVING ROOM, KITCHEN, BATHROOM & BEDROOM



# LIVING

## CLASSIC



STYLISH TWIST  
Jayden **vase** in Small,  
\$29.95, from Domayne.



BRIGHT LIGHT  
Jasmine **table lamp** in  
Red, \$25, from Target.

## CONTEMPORARY



VIVID TEXTURE  
Lychee **vessel** in Orange,  
\$29.95, from Freedom.



IN THE PINK  
L'Avenue "Honeycomb" **cushion** in  
Fuchsia, \$19.95, from Harvey Norman.

## BEACHY



**BEST  
BUY  
\$29.99**

WATERPROOF INNER  
Potatis **plant pot** in Water  
Hyacinth/Black, \$29.99, from Ikea.



IN GOOD SHAPE  
Hex-shaped **ginger jar** in Blue  
(25cm), \$24.95, from Salt&Pepper.

## COUNTRY



TAKE A SEAT  
Bondi Stripe **futon cushion** in  
Red, \$20, from Target.



**BEST  
BUY  
\$14.99**

BACK TO BASICS  
Ribba **frame** in Medium  
Brown, \$14.99, from Ikea.





WRITE ON IT  
Delray blackboard **jars** in Small, \$5.95, Medium, \$7.95, and Large, \$9.95, from Domayne.

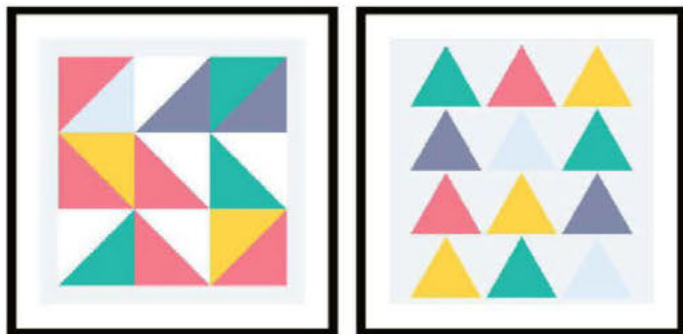


CHECK MATE  
Checkers rectangle **cushion** in Natural, \$20, from Fantastic Furniture.



### WANT MORE?

Use the free **viewa** app to scan this page to buy selected products for \$30 and under!



READY TO HANG  
Canvas 3-piece **print set** in Vintage (each canvas is 15cm x 15cm; only 2 shown), \$5, from Officeworks.



ORANGE GLOW  
Candy Interior Glaze **tealight** in Orange, \$9.95, from Bed Bath N' Table.



FOR THE KIDS  
Harte LED **work lamp** in Pink/Silver, \$19.99, from Ikea.



A GREEN THUMB  
Riskorn **hanging planter** in Green, \$7.99, from Ikea.



MAKES SCENTS  
The Hall large mason **candle** in Cobalt, \$14.95, from Typo.



LIGHT AS A FEATHER  
Lack **side table** in High Gloss Turquoise, \$19.99, from Ikea.



OLD-WORLD CHARM  
Luce Bella "Alice" alabaster **batten fix light**, \$11.90, from Bunnings.



WRAPPED IN WOOL  
Polarvide **throw** in Red, \$4.99, from Ikea.



DOUBLE-GLAZED GLASS  
Hourglass **vase** in Red, \$29.95, from Zanui. ➤



# KITCHEN

CLASSIC



SOFT SPOTS  
Aura "Spot" **napkin set** in Vanilla,  
\$12, from Harvey Norman.



PERFECT PENDANT  
Foto **pendant lamp** in Beige,  
\$29.99, from Ikea.

CONTEMPORARY



BOLD GRAPHICS  
Loft oblong **dish** with "Eat"  
decal, \$9.95, from Salt&Pepper.



CHIP RESISTANT  
Pantone **mug** in Yellow,  
\$22.95, from Zanui.

BEACHY



ONE MORE SIP  
For Arts Sake "Number 1"  
**mug**, \$3, from  
Harvey Norman.



INTO THE BLUE  
Coloured drink **carafe** in Blue, \$6.95,  
from Howards Storage World.



COUNTRY



VINTAGE FEEL  
Glass **jar vase** with handles in Small,  
\$9.95, Medium, \$12.95, and Large,  
\$19.95, from Bed Bath N' Table.



DIPPED EFFECT  
Large **chopping board**,  
\$29.95, from Typo.



# BATHROOM

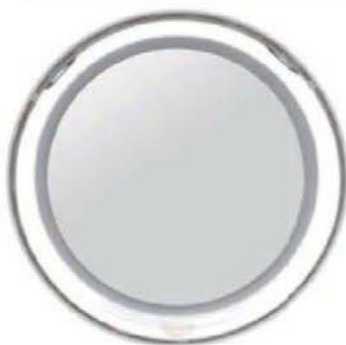
BARGAIN BUYS



ALL WOVEN UP  
Buco small open-storage **bag** in Natural, \$19.95, from Freedom.



OFF THE HOOK  
Bath **hooks** in White, \$19.95, from Bed Bath N' Table.



HANG IT UP  
Suction **mirror** x 5 magnification, \$19.95, from Howards Storage World.



STYLISH SOAP  
Interbath "Rio" **soap dispenser** in Charcoal/Chrome, \$18.90, from Masters Home Improvement.



**WANT MORE?**  
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MINT CONDITION  
Citrine **toilet brush/holder** in Mint, \$24.95, from Freedom.



STEP ON IT!  
Bekvam **step stool** in Aspen, \$14.99, from Ikea.



DRAW THE CURTAIN  
Bath By Ladelle polyester **shower curtain** in Blue, \$19.99, from Spotlight.



**BEST BUY \$29.99**

STORAGE OPTION  
Ragrund **washbasin/corner shelf** in Bamboo, \$29.99, from Ikea.



MADE BY HAND  
Byholma **basket** in Grey, \$9.99, from Ikea. ➤



# BEDROOM

CLASSIC



FADED LOOK  
Vintage Wash **frame**,  
\$15, from Target.



TIME TO SIZE UP  
Pop super-sized giant **clock**  
in Black, \$21, from Target.

CONTEMPORARY



RED HOT  
Bright Light **table lamp** in Red,  
\$15, from Fantastic Furniture.



BRAIDED STRAW  
Striped **basket**,  
\$29.95, from H&M.

BEACHY



COOL TONES  
Zumo "Ropey" **cushion** in  
Multi, \$19.95, from Masters  
Home Improvement.



HOLD MY CANDLE  
Emporium "Niall" **lantern**,  
\$29.95, from Amalfi.

COUNTRY



SIMPLICITY IS KEY  
Wooden **tray** with white  
base, \$29.95, from H&M.



CREWEL INTENTIONS  
Crewelwork embroidered  
**cushion**, \$25, from Target.





**BEST  
BUY  
\$25**

DOUBLE SIDED  
Zumo "Swrat" **cushion** in  
Charcoal, \$25, from Masters  
Home Improvement.



A GREY AREA  
Vivan **curtains** in Grey,  
\$12.99, from Ikea.

## BARGAIN BUYS



METAL PIECE  
Soda **table lamp** in Silver,  
\$29.95, from Beacon Lighting.



ZIGZAG STYLE  
Izzi square **cushion**,  
\$30, from Fantastic  
Furniture.



SOLID AS A ROCK  
Concrete **pot** in Natural,  
\$29, from Zakkia.



**BEST  
BUY  
\$24.99**

ON THE SHELF  
Ekby Viktor/Ekby Mans **wall  
shelf** in Red, \$24.99, from Ikea.



PASTEL CHIC  
Lace light **table lamp** in Blue,  
\$29.95, from Beacon Lighting.



HANGING FEATURE  
Emporium hanging rock **candle  
holder**, \$19.95, from Amalfi.



FROM THE SEA  
Emporium "Ile D'aix" **photo  
frame**, 14.95, from Amalfi.



### WANT MORE?

Use the free  
**viewa**  
app  
to scan this  
page to buy  
selected  
products for  
\$30 and under!



AUSTRALIAN MADE  
**Milk bottles**, \$19.95  
each, from Domayne.



**BEST  
BUY  
\$19.95**

FLOWER POWER  
L'Avenue "Patch Rose"  
**cushion**, \$19.95, from  
Harvey Norman.



TOUCH OF GREEN  
Cement **pot plant**,  
\$14.95, from Typo. **H+**



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# READERS' HOMES

( REAL PEOPLE, REAL STYLE )

FOUR  
FABULOUS  
FAMILY HOMES  
PLUS SHOW US  
YOUR HOME TO  
WIN \$1000  
SEE HOW ON  
PAGE 129



**CLASSIC**



**BEACHY**



**CONTEMPORARY**



**COUNTRY**

**THIS MONTH** CLASSIC, BEACHY, CONTEMPORARY AND COUNTRY

PHOTOGRAPHY JAMES HENRY (CLASSIC & BEACHY); MAREE HOMER (CONTEMPORARY); SIMON KENNY (COUNTRY)



**SHOW  
US  
YOUR  
HOME  
& WIN  
\$1000**  
see how on  
pg 129

**Focal points**

Yellow bar stools  
from Sokol, pendants  
from Beacon Lighting  
and a brickwork  
mural from Emily Ziz  
make a statement.

CONTEMPORARY HOME

AMY O'MARA

# GOOD AS NEW

Considered changes and  
personal touches have given  
this couple's recently built  
home **character and style.**



### Handy woman

Amy sanded back the top of the buffet from Oz Design Furniture as she thought it was too dark and heavy.



DINING

## MEET AMY



**About me** My name is Amy O'Mara and I live with my husband Pete, our two children – Axel who's two, and Priscilla, six months – and our 14-year-old Jack Russell terrier, Peanut.

**Top tips** Don't be afraid of colour! Sign up to the email newsletters of homewares stores you like so you can receive discounts and details for all of their sales etc. and always shop around – Google is my best friend for finding bargains.

**Best buy** The second-hand bedside tables in the main bedroom which I bought on eBay for \$150. They're painted aqua to match my cushions – I just love them!

**A GROWING FAMILY'S NEEDS** were at the top of the list when Amy O'Mara and her partner Peter Price decided to leave their small townhouse on a busy street in search of a new home in Sydney's Northern Beaches. What they've ended up with is a virtually brand-new home with plenty of room inside and a level garden and entertaining area out back.

It's been less than two years since the couple purchased their home, which was only 18 months old when they moved in. In that time, they have knocked out one internal wall to create a large, open-plan living space that has increased the level of natural light, given

all of the walls another lick of paint and extended the back deck to fit in a barbecue, pizza oven and a spa. Amy finished off the garden with tropical plants. "We have neighbours very close," Amy tells, "We planted mature bamboo and it has thickened up beautifully to give us the privacy we were after."

### INDUSTRIAL GLAM

With two young children to look after, most of Amy's styling and bargain hunting is done online first. "We usually head to the local super centres," Amy says. If I see a bargain or something I can work with, I grab it and style around it once I get home."







FRAME UP  
Noble **pendant** (left),  
\$79.95, and Framed  
**pendant** (above), \$99,  
from Freedom.



CUBED SQUARE  
Decorkube **wall shelf**  
in Red, \$27.50, from  
The Shelving Shop.

CROSS IT OFF  
Crosses **rug** in  
Jade, \$395, from  
Aura by Tracie Ellis.



BLACK + WHITE  
Pulse **vessel** (left),  
\$49.95, and Chevron  
**vessel** (right), \$39.95,  
from Freedom.



SITTING PRETTY  
Replica Jean Prouvé  
standard **counter  
stool** in Yellow, \$169,  
from Sokol.



**Hide and seek**  
A set of painted  
white drawers from  
Chocolate Wood sit  
well with a flecked  
grey cow hide.

"I'd like to do room by room and think I'm on *The Block* but the styling of this house has been done bit by bit, as I change my mind all the time," Amy says. "One thing I was certain on though was the use of colour, I love colour!" As well as the bold colours in the bedroom, there are bright yellow bar stools in the kitchen, a blue-green coloured rug in the dining area and teal accessories in the bathroom. These bright shades work together to create a fun and modern statement against a neutral backdrop.

## FAMILY FUN

As well as the spacious kitchen, another space the family enjoys often is the deck. There's an outdoor lounge that

## KITCHEN

**Let there be light**  
Mirrored splashbacks  
reflect more light into  
the kitchen space.





**TIP**

Make what you've got work by altering it to suit your space, whether it's painting or refinishing.

**Take two**  
Sofas from Fantastic Furniture and saved hand-me-down tables from Amy's mother make for an inexpensive fit out.

**LIVING ROOM**



AMY'S COLOUR SCHEME

**CHARCOAL**

Haymes Interior Expressions in Inner Depth, \$69.95 for 4L.

**WHITE**

Dulux Wash & Wear low-sheen paint in Whisper White, \$74.95 for 4L.

**TEAL**

Dulux Wash & Wear in semi-gloss paint Peppermint Fresh, \$89.45 for 4L.





## TIP

Go all out and splurge on an eye-catching light feature that will become the focal point of the room.

## MASTER BEDROOM

### Glam haven

Dramatic black and white decor and bright accessories rule in the bedroom – a room that’s “sporting a touch of glamour!” Amy says.





## DETAIL

**Statement piece**  
Amy made a custom art piece to put in the alcove in her bedroom, which she painted in stripes.

## step-by-step make it!

### MAKE YOUR OWN BIRDCAGE ART

**You will need** Drop sheet; ventilation mask; 3 x birdcages of different sizes (Amy found hers online); 3 x cans of neon spray-paint in different colours; 3 x lengths of 1.6mm plastic, brass or zinc chain (short, medium and long); 3 x hollow wall anchors; 3 x screw hooks

**STEP ONE** Spread drop sheet out in a well-ventilated area. Ensure birdcages are clean. Wear ventilation mask and spray-paint cages, one at a time, in different colours according to directions on can. Leave cages to dry.

**STEP TWO** Meanwhile, fix hollow wall anchors into ceiling where you would like cages to hang, then insert screw hooks.

**STEP THREE** Once dry, carefully open the hoop at the top of each cage using pliers and attach a chain to each cage.

**STEP FOUR** To install, hang a cage from each hook. Hook a link a short length down each chain to another hook until you get the desired height for each cage.



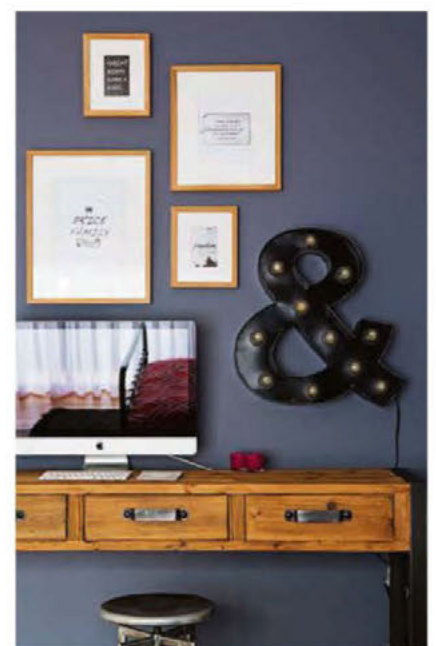
**On yer bike**  
An Ikea unit provides ample storage, while a vintage ride-on car supplies the fun!

## KIDS BEDROOM



## BEDROOM

**Bargain hunter**  
The orange Nara quilt cover set in the guestroom was a \$10 Kmart find.



**On display**  
An ampersand light from Oz Design Furniture is mounted on the wall, »





**Keep it simple**  
Travertine tiling is the hero here, with just a subtle splash of colour.

## BATHROOM

**GREAT IDEA**  
bath mat runner



**VIRTUAL TOUR**  
Use the free **viewa** app to scan this page to see a video of Amy showing us the best parts of her home.

gets used whenever the sun is shining, and entertaining happens year round, thanks to the installation of heater bars and a fan. On weekends when friends come to visit, the adults sit back and watch the children play in the garden or on the deck while the barbecue and pizza oven get a workout.

## STREET WISE

There are plenty of advantages to having their home set back on a battle-axe block: street noise is minimal, there's more privacy and it's safer for the kids. However, the benefits of the location go beyond their block. "We are so fortunate to have a fabulous bunch of close neighbours. Children in the surrounding houses play together and have lots of fun," Amy tells. Not surprising then, that if you ask Amy if there is anything she would change about the home, her answer is definitive: "I love it just the way it is!"

\* Want to see more reader homes? Visit [homesplusmag.com.au](http://homesplusmag.com.au)

**"I don't have a mood board – I just go with whatever my instinct tells me."**

## DETAIL



**Home spa**  
Candlesticks from Domayne and a Glasshouse candle add a luxe touch.

## LIVING ROOM



### Alfresco living

Letting the outdoors in is easy when the main living area opens out onto an expansive deck area.



**Sit back & relax**

The outdoor lounge takes in the sunshine and a good view of the deck, so adults can keep an eye on the kids.

**TIP**

Screening plants are great for increasing privacy in your yard. See our feature on page 106 for more.



**OUTSIDE**



**SHOW  
US  
YOUR  
HOME  
& WIN  
\$1000**  
see how on  
pg 129

BEACHY HOME MAREE NICOLACI

# FAMILY ACT

Adding the finishing touches to a modern renovation has turned this family's house into a **dream home**.

## Easy charm

A casual garden, original stained-glass windows and white fencing give

Maree's home a charming appeal.





**Pretty plant**  
Mother-in-law's  
tongue sits in a  
Kmart plant stand  
creating an eye-  
catching feature.

## HALLWAY

## MEET MAREE



**About me** My name's Maree Nicolaci and I live with my husband John Cannizzaro, our 13-year-old son Jude, Shih-poo Bocelli, cats Penelope and Felicity and a Siamese fighting fish named Gills.

**Top tip** Remember that ambient lighting is important. When decorating, start off with a neutral palette, then add colour using scatter cushions and throws.

**Best buy** My Jasper modular couch from King Furniture is so comfortable and can transform into two beds. It seats the whole family and it's cosy all year round. Best buy ever!



**WHEN MAREE NICOLACI** and her husband John Cannizzaro bought their 1920s Californian bungalow in Northcote, Vic, in 2007, there wasn't much they didn't like about it. They adored the location and loved the original facade, the high ceilings and the recent modern renovation inside. The property was ready to move into, and that's just what they did.

One thing the couple changed to make the house their own was to turn the previously unused roof space into

an art studio. The job took four months to complete and involved restructuring the space using reclaimed timber, installing LED downlights, roof windows and inset shelves and plastering and painting. Over the years, they've also added plants and potted herbs to the gardens and created a paved area in their backyard.

## TROPICAL VIBE

The casual, open and airy atmosphere of the home is not a coincidence. »





**Colour hit**  
The blue chairs from Sokol and yellow fruit bowl from Freedom add fun pops of colour.

**GREAT IDEA**  
extendable table



#### VIRTUAL TOUR

Use the free **viewa** app to scan this page to see a video of Maree in her colourful beachy home.



#### KITCHEN

##### Air flow

Tall windows bring the outdoors into the kitchen area.

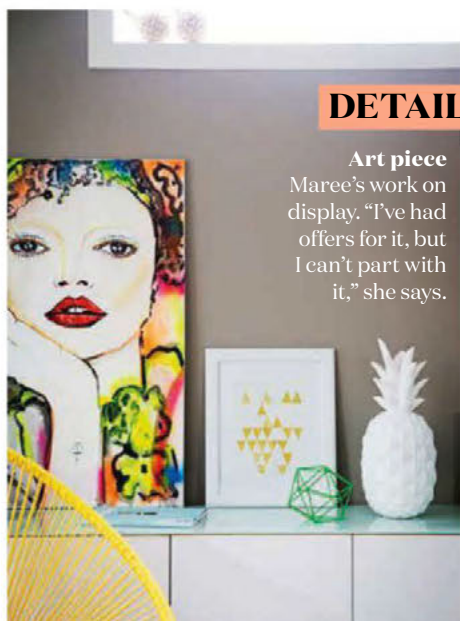


##### Party time

The extendable dining table from Ikea makes entertaining easy.

#### DINING

**“The island bench is the focal point in our kitchen. I love this space.”**



#### DETAIL

**Art piece**  
Maree's work on display. “I’ve had offers for it, but I can’t part with it,” she says.

“I like bringing relaxing elements of the beach into my home. “I want to create a simple relaxed vibe, with interesting pieces and lots of family holiday photos. We travel to tropical destinations often,” Maree says. “I’m always incorporating my holiday inspirations into my decorating style.” The Too Palmy wallpaper from Kawaiian Lion in the bedroom is a case in point, along with the pineapple motifs, woven decor, hits of turquoise and yellow, and the bright cushions, which Maree changes often. Maree’s own art also features in most rooms.

“Original works enhance my home’s personality and add visual interest,” Maree says. Indoor plants also make an appearance, and add to the beachy, fresh look. “They purify air, improve health and reduce fatigue and stress while brightening up a bare space,” Maree says. “I love bringing the outdoors inside. My son Jude tells me that our home is becoming a jungle!”

#### HAPPY FAMILIES

The open-plan nature of the couple’s home complements their casual, creative lifestyle and activity-filled ,



**TIP**

Follow Maree's lead and change up your cushions to revamp your space.

**Time to relax!**

Unwinding happens on the lounge and Maree uses the yellow Acapulco chair from Sokol when reading.

**LIVING ROOM**





## step-by-step make it!

### MAKE A WALLPAPER ARTWORK

**You will need** Masking tape; tape measure; pencil; wallpaper; utility knife; metal ruler; cutting board; wallpaper paste; wallpaper application kit.

**STEP ONE** Apply masking tape to the wall in the shape and position you want the artwork to be. Measure and take note of the inside perimeter of the shape.

**STEP TWO** Mark measurements on the back of the wallpaper and cut out neatly with a utility knife and a metal ruler.

**STEP THREE** Apply wallpaper paste to the back of the wallpaper shape using the tools in the wallpaper application kit.

**STEP FOUR** Carefully apply wallpaper shape to the wall, smoothing out as you go, inside the masking shape outline. When wallpaper is in place, remove tape.

### Aloha & goodnight

A fun and relaxing tropical resort feel prevails in the bedroom – just like being on holiday.

**GREAT  
IDEA**  
wallpaper  
mural

### BEDROOM

### Creative space

Velux windows let plenty of light into Maree's art studio.

### ART STUDIO

### Teen dream

Jude's room is amazingly neat, and kitted out with an Ikea bed, Target sheets and cushions from Typo.

### BEDROOM



FEELING BLUE  
Replica Eames DSW  
**chair** in Ocean Blue,  
\$69, from Sokol.

## MAREE'S BEST BUYS

COLOUR COMBO  
Ikea PS 2014 **cushion  
cover** in Pink and  
Yellow, \$14, from Ikea.

FRUITY NUMBER  
Polyresin **pineapple**  
in Aqua, \$69.95, from  
One French Summer.

ON THE ROPES  
Large rope **basket** in Grey,  
\$19.95, from Typo.

EASY CHAIR  
Ikea PS Vågö **chair** in  
Yellow, \$39.99, from Ikea.

### TIP

Instead of trying  
to hide your study  
nook, make a feature  
of it and turn it into  
a truly useful  
space.

### Popular spot

The study area,  
which opens out  
onto the deck, is  
right in the middle  
of all the action.

## STUDY



## BATHROOM



### Bathroom styling

Potted plants around the tub add colour,  
while a Typo triangle box is a quirky touch.

### Natural neutral

A simple mix of white and beige keeps things  
calm and modern in the bathroom. »





### Warm welcome

Penelope the cat greets guests from her perch – an outdoor bench left by the previous owners, which Maree spray-painted black.

OUTSIDE

## MAREE'S COLOUR SCHEME

### YELLOW

Taubmans Endure semi-gloss paint in **Hi-C Yellow**, \$99.80 for 4L.

### BLUE

Murobond Pure low-sheen paint in **Turquoise**, \$89 for 4L.

### TAUPE

Haymes Interior Expressions in **Slate Beige**, \$69.95 for 4L.



### Time out

The private balcony is a quiet spot to which Maree can retreat.



BALCONY

### Decked out

The backyard is great for entertaining, with a merbau deck and dining set from Harvey Norman.

## OUTSIDE



**“It’s easy to lose sight of the things that really matter. That’s why we love entertaining and creating a relaxed vibe in our home.”**

weekends. Entertaining happens often – sometimes in the combined living, kitchen and dining space, where Maree can keep up her hosting duties and be a part of all the action, and also in the backyard, which flows out from the main living area once the doors and windows are open. The main drawcard for Maree, however, is her art studio. “It’s where I get to be creative, splash paint, get inspired, be messy, sing out loud and totally unwind,” she says. They also have a multipurpose study and DJ room where John can play and record music. It’s not only fun and games for the adults though; Jude and his friends utilise the retreat upstairs most weekends. “It’s perfect for teenagers to hang out,” Maree says.

### PERFECTING IT

The couple have a few more things to tick off their wish list for the property. “I’m looking forward to adding a built-in robe to the main bedroom and a rooftop terrace. I also can’t wait to add a swimming pool and some lush tropical plants,” Maree says. It seems as though they enjoy the location of their home and are set on staying put and making it their perfect family pad.

“Northcote is such a diverse suburb. It oozes creativity – lots of artists and musicians live in the area,” Maree tells. “It’s so vibrant and friendly and it’s got something for everyone. We just love it here.”

✳ Want to see more reader homes? Visit [homesplusmag.com.au](http://homesplusmag.com.au)

### Neat & trim

Paving, decking and a potted herb garden makes for an easy-care yard.





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\$1000**  
see how on  
pg 129

**Lost in love**  
Lisa fell in love with  
the charming  
artist's studio made  
from old stained-  
glass windows as  
soon as she saw it.

**OUTSIDE**

**COUNTRY HOME LISA DYCE**

# THE WINDOW HOUSE

So they could escape from their busy city life, Lisa and Chris turned this country house in Noosa into a characterful **family home**.



## MEET LISA



**About me** My name is Lisa Dyce and I'm a broadcast media executive. I live here with my husband Chris, two sons Jack, 22, Harry, 20, and our Border Collie/Kelpie Kip, who is 13.

**Top tip** If you move interstate, be ruthless when transporting possessions – only bring things you really love. You don't want to surround yourself with too much clutter!

**Best buy** The old French laundry basket, which we use to hold our gumboots by the front door.

### DINING

**Passed down**  
The couple love the cedar dining setting – a family heirloom.

**IT WAS TEN YEARS AGO**, while on a surfing and camping holiday in Queensland, that the Dyce family fell in love with the hinterland area of Noosa Heads. "We had been camping on Fraser Island with our two boys Jack and Harry, who were 12 and 10 at the time. One day we decided to take a drive inland to Tewantin. We were instantly drawn to the area – it just felt so different from our hectic, crazy Sydney life," Lisa says.

That feeling stayed with the couple until the following year, when they returned and bought a small property complete with an old Queenslander home, artist's studio, stables and

milking shed. Set on 20 acres, the property had once been a bean farm.

### GETAWAY HOME

Since buying the farm, friends and family have been constant visitors. Chris and Lisa love that the boys, now aged 22 and 20, will often arrive with a bunch of their friends, who are all happy to pitch in and help with jobs such as gardening and labouring. Extra beds are made up on the wraparound balcony, which is swathed with white mosquito nets. Everyone who stays seems to enjoy the sound of frogs lulling them to sleep rather than the city traffic. As for entertaining, a back





### Divide & conquer

The Indian screen is a versatile piece used to work the open-plan space into different configurations.

### TIP

Fold-up timber or bamboo screens are great for giving extra privacy without blocking off a space.





**Step outside**  
The living area opens onto the back verandah, which is the family's main entertaining area.

## LIVING ROOM



**“We painted the pressed-metal ceiling a gloss white to reflect the green of the old glass panes in the casement windows.”**



## DETAIL

**Green light**  
The green glass panes are one of the couple's fave features.

verandah, which houses the barbecue, was built by Chris and the boys and is the place to hang out all year round.

## ADDED TOUCHES

The walls were painted matte white and the floorboards stained a dark-chocolate colour – a perfect blank canvas for the family's eclectic collection of furniture and accessories. Basics such as Ikea bookcases are a mainstay for storage, which is limited due to the open-plan design. The master bedroom opens onto the front verandah and the laundry is located underneath the house. The L-shaped

kitchen was given a facelift with new appliances, and white open shelving was added to display jars and pantry items. The family's collection is regularly supplemented with pieces bought locally from the plethora of craftsmen and women who live in this creative pocket of Australia.

The biggest and most challenging project was the construction of a suspension bridge to ensure access over the creek during times of heavy tropical rain. “We really wanted something that was aesthetically pleasing and blended with the existing environment.” ➤



**Local gold**  
The Adirondack chairs were bought locally, as was the vintage tin used to hold kindling.

## ENTRANCE



## SEE MORE PHOTOS

Use the free **viewa** app to scan this page to see more photos of Lisa's charming country home in Noosa Heads.





**Floating on air**  
Floating shelves in the kitchen add to the feeling of openness.

**KITCHEN**



**Well organised**  
Labelled glass mason jars are decorative and utilitarian.

**DETAIL**

## step-by-step make it!

### MAKE YOUR OWN VINTAGE BOX

**You will need** Storage box/old jewellery box; black paint; off-white paint; Jo Sonja's decor crackle craft paint; letter stencils; small sponge.

**STEP ONE** Paint the box with black paint or any colour of your choice. Leave to dry. This will be the base colour that will peek through the cracks when finished, so make sure the two colours you choose contrast with each other for the best results.

**STEP TWO** Paint box with distressed crackle paint. Make sure to apply a medium-thick coat. Leave to dry completely.

**STEP THREE** Paint over crackle layer using white paint. It's best to dab paint using a sponge for more of a distressed look. Leave to dry. Small crackles should start appearing within half an hour.

**STEP FOUR** Place letter stencils in position on the box and paint over it using black paint. Stencil on any letters or word of your choice on each side. Leave to dry.

**STEP FIVE** To finish it off, paint the edges of the box using the same black paint.

**“We have lots of family pieces that have been handed down to us, such as a '60s retro lino-topped kitchen table.”**

### **Bold choices**

Lisa loves to use vibrant colours and patterns in her living room.

**LIVING ROOM**





**Storage nook**

The Ikea shelving unit fits perfectly next to Lisa's fridge and is used as extra storage in the kitchen. >

**KITCHEN**



**GREAT  
IDEA**  
shoe  
basket



### **Simplicity is key**

The master bedroom is a simple sanctuary that Lisa and Chris love to return to after business trips interstate.

## **BEDROOM**

### **TIP**

Be relaxed about the design of the bedroom. It's a place to unwind – keep things simple.

## **LISA'S COLOUR SCHEME**

### **GREEN**

Haymes Interior Expressions in **Bright Emerald**, \$76.95 for 4L.

### **WHITE**

Dulux Wash & Wear in **China White**, \$74.95 for 4L.

### **BEIGE**

Murobond Murowash paint in **Twine**, \$93 for 4L.





**Bridge the gap**  
Lisa and Chris on the suspension bridge that Chris and his team built.

**Making music**  
An old piano has been painted emerald green and is a favourite source of entertainment.

**OUTSIDE**



**“I like to make sure that there are lots of cosy spots to curl up in with a book.”**

**FINISHING IT OFF**

The family are excited about future projects, which include gradually restoring the artist's studio, milking shed and stables, as well as adding plantings to the existing orchard of macadamia, quince and cumquat trees. “Nobody seems to mind pitching in and helping, just as long as there's still time for a surf and a cold bevvy on the balcony at the end of the day.”

\* Want to see more reader homes? Visit [homesplusemag.com.au](http://homesplusemag.com.au)



**ALL WHITE**  
Dudero **floor lamp** in Silver/White, \$14.99, from Ikea.



**PIPED EDGES**  
Gelato stripe **cushion** in Blueberry, \$14.99, from Catch Of The Day.



**TEA TIME**  
InfusionsT Oslo 750ml **teapot** in Teal, \$16.95, from Maxwell & Williams.



**SHELF LIFE**  
Kallax **shelving unit** in White, \$75, from Ikea.



**SHOW  
US  
YOUR  
HOME  
& WIN  
\$1000**  
see how on  
pg 129

CLASSIC HOME **CARMEL MEMBERY**

# MANOR REBORN

The old and the new come together with **style and ease** in this young family's updated Melbourne terrace.

**Made to measure**  
Carmel's father-in-law made the box shelves to fit her print remnants.



## MEET CARMEL



**About me** My name is Carmel Membery. My husband Lance and I live with our son Hudson, who's 18 months, and our dachshund Ryder while we wait for our baby to arrive.

**Top tip** Don't wait to decorate after your reno is finished – styling is about layering, experimenting and taking cues from your environment. Have fun as you go and you will start to notice you have a style that is all your own.

**Best buy** The Ikea rocking chair in Hudson's room, which I purchased on eBay for \$30, is stylish, practical and comfortable – and now we have priceless memories attached to it.

### TIP

Try Carmel's idea of framing gorgeous tea towels in inexpensive picture frames.

### DINING

#### Textural combo

Modern chairs complement a vintage trestle table Carmel found on eBay.

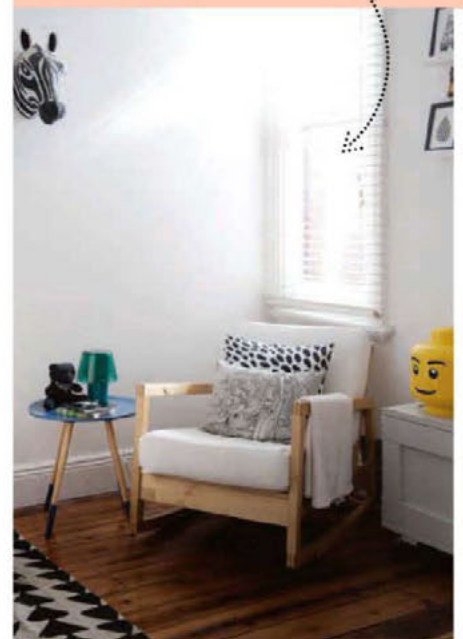
**WHEN CARMEL MEMBERY** and her husband Lance bought their historic home in Melbourne's inner-northern suburb of Coburg, they dubbed it Membery Manor. Although the Victorian double-storey terrace is far from being a mansion, it's clear it has all of the associated heritage charm and character that gives it a timeless and classic appeal.

The previous owner had lovingly maintained the property; there was a new roof, working fireplaces and the original fixtures and claw-foot tub remained in good condition, along with the beautiful Baltic pine floors. One hitch was the colour scheme.

"The place had been painted in a mixture of different heritage colours throughout – lots of maroon and green," Carmel tells. "One room was the colour of a salt and vinegar chip packet! However, we felt the house had great bones to build upon."

### STAGING IT

Over the next three years, the couple renovated in stages, starting by painting all of the walls in white semi-gloss paint and installing modern light fixtures and white timber shutters in every room. The bedrooms also got floor-to-ceiling wardrobes and storage was built in adjacent to the bathroom, >





**Far and away**  
Framed photographs  
from the couple's  
travels grace the  
walls above the  
Freedom sofa.

## LIVING ROOM



## Room to room

A rattan rug from  
Ikea creates a cosy  
focal point in front  
of the traditional  
fireplace.



**“Meals are in the dining room away from the TV,  
and the lounge is cosy and quiet for a movie or reading.”**

## DETAIL

**Memory lane**  
Carmel didn't  
want to fix the  
crack in the  
antique mirror,  
which once  
belonged to her  
grandmother.



which was totally renovated as part of stage two. “We saved money by selling the existing heritage features and purchasing everything ourselves,” Carmel says. “We designed the space and simply found tradesmen to carry out our vision.” That vision involved having a false wall, ceiling and floor installed and waterproofing and painting a brick wall in the bathroom.

During the final stage of the reno, the couple had split-system air-conditioning installed and tackled the kitchen. The arrival of their son Hudson altered their grand plans to knock out the back of the property: they simply refitted the existing area with plain white cabinets and a laminate benchtop instead. “This kitchen will

serve our family needs now and anyone who rents the house after us, should we move on,” Carmel says.

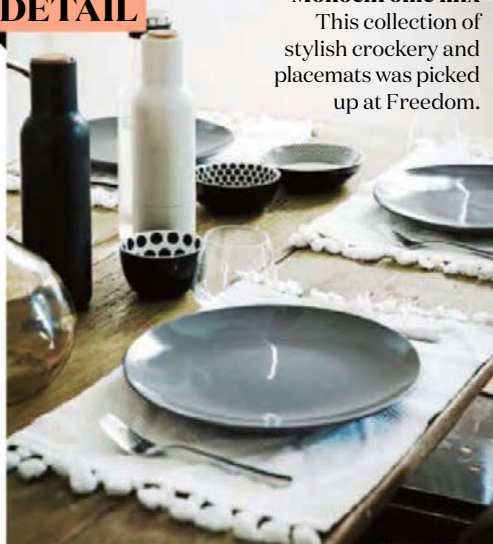
## TIME OUT

“While we were investing most of our money in the renovation, my decorating involved layering beautiful industrial vintage pieces we’ve inherited or made ourselves,” Carmel says. “Now I’m finding myself editing and paring things back to quality pieces.” Evidence of Carmel’s budget-friendly mix-and-match approach is dotted throughout the home. Ikea “Lack” side tables and Foto pendants share space with hand-me-down pieces from Carmel’s grandmother, including a vintage mirror and cast-iron bed, and eBay



## DETAIL

**Monochrome mix**  
This collection of stylish crockery and placemats was picked up at Freedom.



## KITCHEN



**Staying cool**  
Carmel made the "Balance" print to remind herself to find downtime.

## TIP

Keep to a simple palette of black and white for a timeless kitchen design.

## KITCHEN

**White on white**  
Everything in the kitchen, except for the Westinghouse oven, was sourced from Ikea.



## READERS' HOMES

**SIMPLE SOLUTION**  
Foto pendant **lamp** in Aluminium (25cm), \$29.99, from Ikea.



## CARMEL'S BEST BUYS

**TRI-ANGLED**  
*My Favourite Shape* print by Krissy Diggs (6" x 10"), \$23.57, from Society6.



**SHINE ON**  
Hektor **floor lamp** in Dark Grey, \$79, from Ikea.



**INDUSTRIAL STYLE**  
Marias **chair** in Galvanised, \$109, from ClickOn Furniture.



**ON THE SIDE**  
Spoke **side table** (medium), \$99, from Freedom.





### Light & bright

An old army chest has been painted grey and houses books and toys for Hudson. Carmel made the driftwood garland herself.

## HALLWAY



## NURSERY



**On display**  
Hudson's book collection sits with art prints by Seventy Tree.

**“When renovating a 125-year-old house you do need to compromise, at times, if you wish to respect its character.”**

## step-by-step make it!

### MAKE YOUR OWN ANIMAL HOOKS

**You will need** Piece of plywood, at least 30cm x 20cm; pencil and ruler; jigsaw; sandpaper; 40cm length of timber moulding at least 3cm wide; drill; 6 x screws.

**STEP ONE** Using a template, draw the three animal head shapes that will form your hooks onto the plywood. Our template has a cat, rabbit and fox (see “Online”, right).

**STEP TWO** Carefully cut each animal head shape out with a jigsaw. Use sandpaper to smooth all of the edges.

**STEP THREE** Place animal heads onto strip and affix with screws to form the eyes of each animal head. Your animal hooks are now ready to mount onto the wall.

**Sweet art**  
The black and white theme continues, softened with light timber and colourful linen.

### ONLINE

For cat, rabbit and fox hook templates, hop on to our website.  
[homesplushmag.com.au](http://homesplushmag.com.au)

## NURSERY





### Handyman talent

Lance made the custom shelves with steel squares and timber planks using a steel-strapping machine. ➤

**GREAT  
IDEA**  
framed  
photo set

## BEDROOM

### CARMEL'S COLOUR SCHEME

#### BLACK

Dulux Aquanamel high-gloss enamel paint in **Black**, \$68.25 for 2L, Bunnings.

#### WHITE

Taubmans Endure semi-gloss paint in **Crisp White**, \$61.90 for 4L.

#### GREY

Taubmans Endure semi-gloss paint in **Hampton Inn**, \$61.90 for 4L.



**“Through the bedroom balcony, we listen to the city wake up on summer mornings. We also have uninterrupted city views which are stunning at night.”**



#### SEE MORE

Use the free **viewa** app to scan this page to see a video of Carmel and Lance's classic-style home.

#### DETAIL

**Neat display**  
Prints from Society6 sit above a vintage glove mould, used to display accessories.



and market finds such as the rustic dining table and old army chest in the hallway. A stripped-back palette of white walls, black tiles and floorboards has meant that all of these elements work together without making the spaces seem too busy or cluttered.

#### LIVING IT UP

Although the family typically spend most of their time in the backyard, they also enjoy the different rooms of their not-so-open-plan home. “Meals are in the dining room where conversation can flow away from the TV, the bedrooms are little sanctuaries away from the rest of the living spaces and the lounge is cosy and quiet for a movie or reading,” Carmel says. “Entertaining happens in the backyard or over wine in the dining room.”

#### WHAT'S NEXT?

The family home has certainly evolved under the care of Carmel and Lance and they have now turned their attention to the backyard to create an area for Hudson and, eventually, his new sibling to play in. A shade sail, planter boxes and a downsized shed are in the works. “We are very proud of our first-time reno,” Carmel says, “and happy with what we’ve achieved in this home within the budget and time we’ve had.” ■

\* Want to see more reader homes? Visit [homesplusmag.com.au](http://homesplusmag.com.au)

#### Storage sorted

The couple installed floor-to-ceiling built-in robes from Stegbar into the narrow alcoves.

#### BEDROOM



#### BATHROOM

##### Vanity project

The Ikea double vanity was picked up for a bargain price as it was being discontinued.





**Budget planning**

The couple bought all the bathroom fixtures themselves instead of leaving it to trades, saving time and money. The painted brick wall looks great and saved on the tiling budget.

**TIP**

Plan your bathroom details carefully! Claire installed a hidden cistern and inset shelving.

**BATHROOM**



# want more?

## @homesplusmag

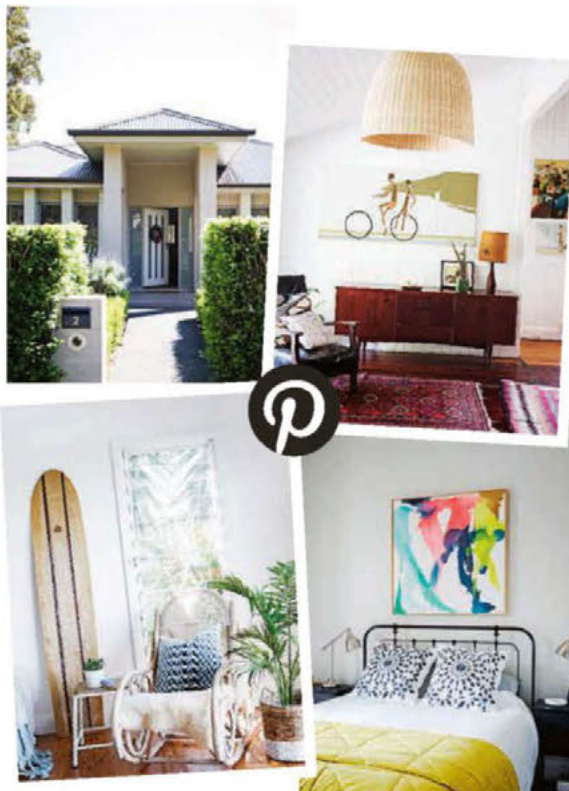
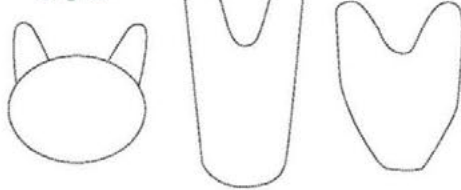
## homesplusmag.com.au

( READ MORE, SEE MORE AND GET INSPIRED! )



**DIY  
PROJECT  
TEMPLATES**

**INCLUDING CARMEL'S  
ANIMAL HOOKS**



### ***Decorating moodboards***

See our Pinterest boards for interiors inspiration in country, contemporary, classic and beachy styles and repin to your heart's content!



***Go online for DIY videos of all of our practical ideas, including projects from Scotty Cam***



**Reader  
inspo**

We love to see readers spreading their *homes+* love – remember to tag #homesplusmag!

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PHOTOGRAPHY JAMES HENRY; MAREE HOMER; CHRIS WARNES



WEBSITE



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INSTAGRAM



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YOUTUBE



# EASY FOOD

( QUICK & DELICIOUS MEALS FOR THE MONTH! )

**BUDGET  
MONTHLY  
MEAL  
PLANNER**

**Very satisfying**  
Noodles make an  
omelette more  
filling (pg 86).

**2 meals in 1**  
This omelette is  
delicious served  
cold with a salad  
for lunch, too. »

**THIS MONTH** FOUR WEEKS OF TASTY (AND EASY) MEALS, ALL FOR UNDER \$20 EACH



MAKE IT YOURSELF

# A MONTH OF MEALS

If you're stuck in a cooking rut, serving the same old dishes on repeat, get ready to be inspired! Follow our easy-peasy monthly meal planner to get you **whipping up a storm** in the kitchen.

25  
MINS

## TIP

Instead of frozen vegetables, use up any vegies you may have left in the fridge.



## WEEK 1

## MONDAY

SWEET CHILLI  
BEEF STIR-FRY

SERVES 4

PREP 15 MINUTES

COOK 10 MINUTES

\$2.95 PER SERVE

500g rump steak, trimmed, thinly sliced  
 ¼ cup, sweet chilli  
 Canola oil  
 500g packet frozen stir-fry mixed vegetables  
 2 tablespoons soy sauce  
 Steamed rice and sliced green onion, to serve

**STEP 1** In a bowl, toss beef in sweet chilli sauce. Set aside for 10 minutes.

**STEP 2** In a large wok, heat oil on high. Stir-fry beef in 2 batches, for 2-3 minutes each, until browned. Transfer to a plate.

**STEP 3** Using the same wok, stir-fry vegetables 2-3 minutes until just cooked.

**STEP 4** Return beef to pan with soy sauce. Stir-fry 2-3 minutes to heat through. Serve on a bed of rice, sprinkled with green onion.

**TIP** Cook rice by the absorption method – combine 1½ cups long-grain white rice (remember it triples when cooked) in a medium saucepan with 1½ cups water. Cover with tight-fitting lid and bring to boil on high. Reduce heat to low and cook 15 minutes until water absorbs. Set aside for 5 minutes, covered. Fluff with a fork.

## TUESDAY

55+  
MINS

## GREEK-STYLE DRUMSTICKS

SERVES 4 PREP 20 MINUTES (PLUS MARINATING)

COOK 35 MINUTES \$3.55 PER SERVE

8 chicken drumsticks  
 Juice and zest of 1 lemon  
 1 tablespoon dried oregano  
 2 cloves garlic, crushed  
 Salt and pepper  
**SALAD**  
 100g (half pack) mixed lettuce leaves

1 cucumber, chopped  
 125g (half punnet) cherry tomatoes, halved  
 100g fetta, crumbed  
 Extra virgin olive oil and white wine vinegar, to serve

**STEP 1** Preheat oven to 180°C (160°C fan forced).

**STEP 2** In a large bowl, combine chicken drumsticks with lemon zest, juice, oregano and garlic. Toss well to coat. Season to taste. Set aside to marinate for at least 30 minutes.

**STEP 3** Bake for 30-35 minutes until cooked through when tested (juices will run clear when pierced in the thickest part of the drumstick).

**STEP 4** **SALAD** In a serving bowl, combine lettuce with cucumber, tomatoes and fetta. Season to taste and toss well. Serve drizzled with olive oil and vinegar. Serve with chicken.

**TIP** If you marinate the chicken for longer than 30 minutes, do so in the fridge. Score the chicken in a few places to allow flavours to absorb more easily into the meat. ➤



**WEDNESDAY**



**50  
MINS**

## GRILLED HALOUMI SALAD

**SERVES 4 PREP 15 MINUTES**

**COOK 35 MINUTES \$2.80 PER SERVE**

60g baby spinach leaves  
450g can baby beetroot,  
drained, beetroot halved  
100g green beans, trimmed,  
blanched  
2 tablespoons olive oil  
180g packet haloumi, sliced

2 tablespoons pine nuts,  
toasted  
Salt and pepper  
2 tablespoons extra-virgin  
olive oil  
1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar  
Crusty bread, to serve

**STEP 1** On a platter, arrange spinach leaves, beetroot and beans.

**STEP 2** Heat chargrill pan (or frying pan) on high. Brush haloumi and pan with a little oil. Cook haloumi for 1-2 minutes on each side until golden marks show.

**STEP 3** Toss haloumi through salad and sprinkle with pine nuts. Season to taste and drizzle with extra-virgin olive oil and balsamic vinegar to serve. Accompany with crusty bread if liked.

**TIP** Toast pine nuts by tossing in a clean frying pan on medium for 1-2 minutes until golden. Transfer to a plate straightaway to prevent burning. If liked, toss through some cooked prawns or sliced chargrilled lamb.

**THURSDAY**



**50  
MINS**

## GRILLED VEGETABLE FLAN

**SERVES 4 PREP 20 MINUTES**

**COOK 30 MINUTES \$2.50 PER SERVE**

1½ puff pastry sheets  
2 eggs, beaten  
2 zucchini, thinly sliced  
lengthways  
1 bunch asparagus, trimmed

¼ cup semi-dried tomatoes,  
roughly chopped  
½ cup grated parmesan  
Salad leaves, to serve

**STEP 1** Preheat oven to hot, 200°C (180°C fan forced).

**STEP 2** Line the base and sides of a 20cm x 30cm slice pan with pastry sheets, trimming and joining to fit. Prick base all over with a fork. Bake for 8-10 minutes.

**STEP 3** Remove from oven and cover with tea towel. Press down with hands to flatten puffed base. Brush with a little beaten egg (see Tip). Bake for a further 4-5 minutes until golden.

**STEP 4** Preheat a chargrill pan on high. Lightly spray vegetables with oil. Chargrill in batches, for 1-2 minutes each, turning halfway through.

**STEP 5** Arrange vegetables evenly over pastry. Pour over remaining egg, tilting to fill gaps and corners. Sprinkle with parmesan. Bake for 10-12 minutes until egg just sets. Serve in slices with salad.

**TIP** Brushing par-baked pastry with egg helps to seal the surface, preventing base from going soggy when filling is added.



FRIDAY

## CHILLI GARLIC PRAWN SPAGHETTI

SERVES 4 PREP 20 MINUTES

COOK 15 MINUTES \$3.15 PER SERVE

**TIP**

For a decadent twist, add a touch of cream to the prawns.

375g packet spaghetti  
¼ cup olive oil or chilli oil  
4 cloves garlic, sliced  
2 red chillies, finely diced  
350g banana prawns,

peeled, deveined, tails on  
Zest and juice of 1 lemon  
Salt and pepper  
60g rocket leaves  
Crusty bread, to serve

**STEP 1** Cook pasta following packet instructions in a large saucepan of boiling salted water.

**STEP 2** Meanwhile, in a large frying pan, heat oil on high. Gently fry garlic and chilli for 30 seconds. Add prawns and cook for 2-3 minutes, stirring.

**STEP 3** Remove from heat and add lemon zest and juice.

**STEP 4** Drain pasta and return to pan. Season to taste and toss prawn mixture through.

**STEP 5** Pile into serving bowls and top with rocket leaves. Accompany with crusty bread. ▶

**35  
MINS**



**MONDAY**

## CORN & SALMON SALAD

**SERVES 4 PREP 15 MINUTES**

**COOK 15 MINUTES \$3.90 PER SERVE**

2 corn cobs, husks removed  
Olive or vegetable oil spray  
500g kumara, peeled, cut into  
4mm-thick slices  
250g cherry tomatoes, halved  
50g baby rocket leaves  
2 green onions, thinly sliced  
210g can pink salmon, drained,  
skin, bones removed, flaked

### DRESSING

½ bunch parsley leaves  
2 tablespoons olive oil  
2 tablespoons egg mayonnaise  
2 tablespoons white wine  
vinegar  
Salt and pepper

**STEP 1** Preheat a chargrill pan on high. Spray corn with oil. Chargrill corn for 4-5 minutes, turning on all sides, until lightly charred. Slice kernels from cob with a sharp knife.

**STEP 2** Spray kumara with oil. Chargrill slices for 2-3 minutes each side, until just tender.

**STEP 3** DRESSING Place all ingredients in a food processor. Process until smooth. Season to taste.

**STEP 4** In a large salad bowl, combine corn, kumara, tomato, rocket and green onion. Flake over salmon. Season to taste. Drizzle with dressing and serve.

# WEEK 2

**30  
MINS**

### TIP

Swap salmon  
for cooked  
shredded chicken  
if preferred.



TUESDAY

50  
MINS

## FETTA-STUFFED CHICKEN & RATATOUILLE BAKE

SERVES 4

PREP 20 MINUTES

COOK 30 MINUTES

\$4.05 PER SERVE

4 large chicken thigh fillets  
90g fetta, sliced into 4 chunks  
Salt and pepper  
2 tablespoons olive oil  
2 zucchini, thickly sliced  
250g punnet cherry tomatoes  
1 lemon, sliced  
¼ cup white wine  
2 garlic cloves, sliced  
4 sprigs thyme, plus extra to serve  
2 tablespoons pitted kalamata olives  
Salad and bread, to serve

**STEP 1** Preheat oven to moderate, 180°C (160°C fan forced).

**STEP 2** Top underside of each thigh with a slice of fetta. Roll up tightly, securing with toothpicks. Season to taste.

**STEP 3** In a large ovenproof frying pan, heat oil on high. Brown chicken for 3-4 minutes, turning occasionally. Add zucchini, tomatoes, lemon, wine, garlic and thyme. Bake for 20-25 minutes, until chicken is cooked through.

**STEP 4** Sprinkle with olives and extra thyme to serve. Accompany with salad and bread.

**TIP** For extra flavour, place a couple of basil leaves underneath each slice of fetta.

WEDNESDAY

35  
MINS

## BEEF, TOFU & BLACK BEAN STIR-FRY

SERVES 4 PREP 20 MINUTES

COOK 15 MINUTES \$4.25 PER SERVE

2 tablespoons vegetable oil  
300g firm tofu, drained  
250g beef rump steak, thinly sliced  
1 capsicum, seeded, sliced  
100g green beans, trimmed, halved

2 cloves garlic, crushed  
½ cup black bean sauce  
440g thin egg noodles  
1 bunch pak choy, stems sliced and leaves separated  
Sesame seeds, toasted, to serve (see Tip)

**STEP 1** In a wok or large frying pan, heat oil on high. Pat tofu dry with paper towel. Stir-fry for 3-4 minutes, until golden. Transfer to a plate. Keep warm. Stir-fry beef for 1-2 minutes to seal and brown.

**STEP 2** Add capsicum, beans and garlic to wok and stir-fry for 1-2 minutes – they need to keep a bit of crunch. Add sauce and bring to simmer.

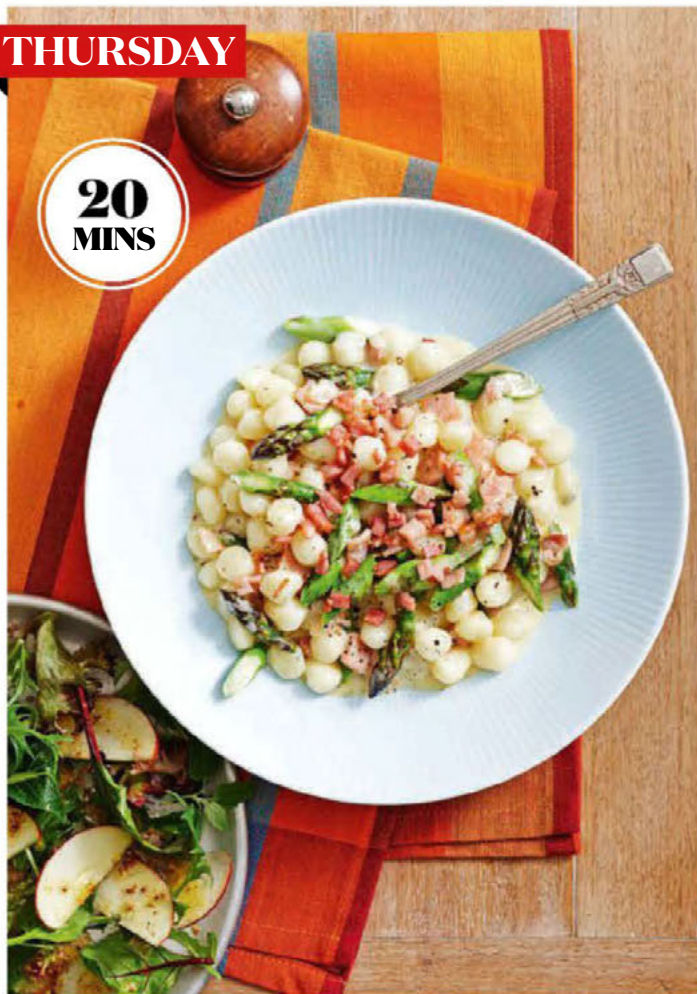
**STEP 3** Return tofu to wok with noodles and pak choy stems. Stir-fry for 1-2 minutes. Toss pak choy leaves through to just wilt. Sprinkle with sesame seeds and serve.

**TIP** Before you start, toast sesame seeds in dry hot wok for about 30 seconds, swirling often until golden and transfer to a plate. ▶



THURSDAY

20  
MINS



## GNOCCHI & ASPARAGUS IN BLUE CHEESE SAUCE

**SERVES 4 PREP 10 MINUTES**

**COOK 10 MINUTES \$3.80 PER SERVE**

500g packet baby gnocchi

1 tablespoon olive oil

2 rashers rindless bacon,  
finely chopped

1 bunch asparagus, trimmed,  
cut into 3 cm lengths

¼ cup white wine

195g packet mild creamy blue  
cheese (such as gorgonzola  
dolce), chopped

2 tablespoons cream

Salt and pepper

Salad, to serve (see Tip)

**STEP 1** Cook gnocchi in a large saucepan of boiling, salted water according to packet instructions. Drain well.

**STEP 2** Meanwhile, in a large frying pan, heat oil on high. Cook bacon for 3-4 minutes, until very crisp. Set aside.

**STEP 3** Using the same pan, gently fry asparagus for 1 minute. Pour in wine and bring to a simmer. Add gnocchi to pan with cheese and cream. Cook for 1-2 minutes, stirring, until smooth. Season to taste.

**STEP 4** Sprinkle with crispy bacon to serve. Accompany with salad, if liked.

**TIP** Whisk 2 tablespoons olive oil together with 1 tablespoon each of wholegrain mustard and maple syrup. Toss dressing through a salad of 50g mixed leaves and 1 sliced red apple.

FRIDAY

45  
MINS



## SPICED CHORIZO RICE

**SERVES 4 PREP 20 MINUTES**

**COOK 25 MINUTES \$3.45 PER SERVE**

1 tablespoon olive oil

1 onion, chopped

1 chorizo sausage, chopped

2 garlic cloves, crushed

1 teaspoon smoked paprika

1 ½ cup long-grain rice,  
rinsed, drained

3 cups chicken stock

¾ cup frozen peas, thawed

125g cherry tomatoes, halved

Salt and pepper

**AVOCADO SALSA**

1 avocado, seeded, peeled,  
chopped

1 Lebanese cucumber, seeded,  
chopped

¼ red onion, finely chopped

1 tablespoon lime juice

**STEP 1** In a large frying pan, heat oil on medium. Gently fry onion, chorizo and garlic for 4-5 minutes, until onion softens and chorizo is slightly crisp. Stir in garlic and paprika, and cook for 1 minute.

**STEP 2** Mix in rice to evenly coat grains. Add stock and bring to boil. Reduce heat to low. Simmer, covered with a tightly fitting lid, for 12-15 minutes, until all liquid is absorbed and rice is tender.

**STEP 3** **AVOCADO SALSA** In a bowl, gently combine all ingredients. Season to taste.

**STEP 4** Stir peas and tomato through rice. Season to taste. Cook for 1-2 minutes to heat through. Serve with avocado salsa.

**TIPS** If cherry tomatoes are expensive, you can use 1 chopped regular-sized tomato instead. Remove seeds from halved cucumber by scraping with a teaspoon.



## MONDAY

## SAUSAGE &amp; MOZZARELLA TARTS

SERVES 4 PREP 25 MINUTES COOK 40 MINUTES

\$3.10 PER SERVE

2 puff pastry sheets, halved  
1 tablespoon oil  
1 onion, sliced  
1 clove garlic, crushed  
1 pear, cored, sliced  
8 beef chipolata sausages,  
cooked (see Tip), sliced  
¾ cup grated mozzarella

4 sprigs thyme, plus extra  
to serve  
4 eggs  
Salt and pepper  
SALAD  
2 cups rocket leaves  
1 tablespoon oil  
1 tablespoon balsamic glaze

**STEP 1** Preheat oven to 200°C (180°C fan forced). Lightly grease 4 x 12cm loose-bottomed round flan pans.

**STEP 2** Ease each pastry half into a flan pan, trimming and joining to fit. Prick bases with a fork. Place a piece of baking paper in each and fill with baking weights or dried beans.

**STEP 3** Blind bake pastry for 8-10 minutes. Remove paper and weights. Bake for a further 2-3 minutes, until pastry is a pale golden colour. Set aside to cool.

**STEP 4** In a medium frying pan, heat oil on high. Gently fry onion and garlic for 2-3 minutes until onion is tender. Add pear and cook for 1-2 minutes, until just softened. Remove from heat. Allow mixture to cool slightly.

**STEP 5** Spoon mixture evenly between cases. Top with an even amount of sausage, cheese and thyme. Place on an oven tray.

**STEP 6** In a jug, whisk eggs and season to taste. Pour over filling in cases. Bake for 15-20 minutes, until set and golden.

**STEP 7** SALAD In a salad bowl, toss all ingredients together and season to taste. Serve with tarts, sprinkled with extra thyme.

**TIP** Cook chipolata sausages in a small frying pan on medium, turning, for 10-12 minutes. ▶

## WEEK 3



**65**  
MINS



**TUESDAY**



**35  
MINS**

## PORK & NOODLE STIR FRY

**SERVES 4**

**PREP 15 MINUTES**

**COOK 20 MINUTES**

**\$3.25 PER SERVE**

220g packet shelf fresh thin egg noodles  
2 tablespoons oil  
500g pork schnitzel, sliced (see Tip)  
1 red capsicum, seeded, sliced  
1 onion, sliced  
2 cloves garlic, crushed  
1 long red chilli, sliced (optional)  
150g snow peas, halved  
3 cups Chinese cabbage (wombok), shredded  
¼ cup char-siu sauce  
2 tablespoons shaoxing wine (Chinese rice wine)  
1 tablespoon white vinegar  
Chopped peanuts, to serve

**STEP 1** Place noodles in a large heatproof bowl and cover with just-boiled water. Set aside for 5 minutes, separating noodles following packet instructions. Drain well.

**STEP 2** In a wok or large frying pan, heat oil on high. Stir-fry pork in 2 batches, for 1-2 minutes each, until browned. Transfer to a plate.

**STEP 3** Add capsicum, onion, garlic and chilli to same wok. Stir-fry for 1-2 minutes. Mix in snow peas and cabbage with char-siu, shaoxing and vinegar. Stir-fry for 2-3 minutes, until bubbling.

**STEP 4** Return pork to wok with noodles. Stir-fry for 2-3 minutes, to heat through. Serve in bowls topped with chopped peanuts.

**TIP** For easier slicing and added tenderness, partially freeze the pork schnitzel and slice across the grain.

**WEDNESDAY**



**35  
MINS**

## CHICKEN WALDORF SALAD

**SERVES 4**

**PREP 20 MINUTES**

**COOK 15 MINUTES**

**\$3.25 PER SERVE**

2 chicken breast fillets  
Juice of ½ a lemon  
2 teaspoons Cajun seasoning  
1 tablespoon oil  
½ cup cracked wheat (burghul)  
3 stalks celery, sliced  
1 Granny Smith apple, cored, sliced  
100g feta cheese, crumbled  
Lemon wedges, to serve  
**DRESSING**  
1 lemon (zest of ½, 2 tablespoons juice)  
2 tablespoons olive oil  
Salt and pepper

**STEP 1** Place chicken between two sheets of plastic wrap. Pound with a mallet or rolling pin to flatten to an even thickness.

**STEP 2** Brush both sides with juice and sprinkle with seasoning. Cover and chill for 10 minutes.

**STEP 3** In a large frying pan, heat oil on medium. Cook chicken for 5-6 minutes each side, until cooked through (see Tip). Remove from pan. Cool then slice.

**STEP 4** Meanwhile, place cracked wheat in a heat-resistant bowl. Cover with just-boiled water and set aside for 30 minutes to soak. Drain and transfer to a large bowl.

**STEP 5** **DRESSING** In a small jug, combine all ingredients. Season to taste.

**STEP 6** Add chicken, celery, apple and feta to cracked wheat. Season to taste and toss well. Arrange on a platter. Drizzle with dressing and serve with lemon wedges.

**TIP** To ensure chicken is cooked through, transfer to a moderate oven (180°C) for 5-10 minutes after pan-frying.

**THURSDAY**



**25  
MINS**

## PUMPKIN & BEAN CHILLI

**SERVES 4**

**PREP 15 MINUTES**

**COOK 10 MINUTES**

**\$2.20 PER SERVE**

2 tablespoons oil  
1 onion, sliced  
2 cloves garlic, crushed  
1 tablespoon dry curry powder  
750g pumpkin, seeded, peeled, cubed  
2 cups vegetable stock or water  
400g can diced tomatoes  
½ cup dried red lentils  
1 green capsicum, seeded, chopped  
400g can red kidney beans, rinsed, drained  
Steamed rice, sour cream and coriander sprigs, to serve

**STEP 1** In a large saucepan, heat oil on medium. Gently fry onion and garlic for 3-4 minutes, until onion is tender.

**STEP 2** Mix in curry powder and cook, stirring, for 1 minute. Add pumpkin, stock, tomatoes and lentils. Bring to a simmer. Cook, covered, for 25-30 minutes, stirring occasionally, until pumpkin is tender.

**STEP 3** Stir in capsicum and beans. Simmer, uncovered, for a further 4-5 minutes, to heat through.

**STEP 4** Serve on a bed of rice, topped with sour cream and coriander.

**TIPS** Use brown rice or a mixed rice of choice instead of white rice. Use kumara in place of pumpkin, if you like.



## FRIDAY

## HALOUMI MEATBALL SKEWERS

SERVES 4 PREP 25 MINUTES

COOK 20 MINUTES \$3.65 PER SERVE

500g lamb mince  
1 tablespoon garam masala  
1 teaspoon dried chilli flakes  
Salt and pepper  
100g haloumi cheese, cut into 18 small pieces  
6 bamboo skewers, soaked  
2 lemons, cut into chunks, plus wedges to serve  
2 tablespoons oil

Pita crisps, to serve (see Tip, below)  
**SALAD**  
1 baby fennel, trimmed, shaved  
4 radishes, trimmed, shaved  
1 carrot, peeled, shaved  
1 tablespoon lemon juice  
1 tablespoon olive oil  
1 tablespoon honey

**TIP**

You can make pita crisps ahead and store in an airtight container.

**STEP 1** Preheat oven to 200°C (180°C fan forced). Lightly grease an oven tray.

**STEP 2** In a large bowl, combine mince, garam masala and chilli. Season to taste and mix well.

**STEP 3** Roll mixture into 18 walnut-sized balls. Insert a piece of haloumi into centre of each and remould. Thread onto skewers alternately with lemon pieces.

**STEP 4** In a large frying pan, heat oil on medium. Cook skewers in two batches for 5-6 minutes each, turning, until golden brown. Place on tray. Bake for 8-10 minutes to cook through.

**STEP 5** **SALAD** In a large bowl, combine fennel, radish and carrot. In a small jug, whisk juice, oil and honey together. Season to taste. Pour over salad, tossing well.

**STEP 6** Serve meatball skewers with salad, pita crisps and lemon wedges.

**TIP** Pita crisps can be easily made by cutting pita bread into wedges, spraying with oil and sprinkling with seasoning. Bake in a hot oven (200°C) for 8-10 minutes, until golden and crisp. Cool crisps on tray. ▶

**45**  
MINS



**MONDAY**

## **BACON & ASPARAGUS PASTA**

**SERVES 4 PREP 5 MINUTES**

**COOK 10 MINUTES \$3.55 PER SERVE**

375g packet fresh fettuccine  
Salt

2 tablespoons olive oil

3 rashers bacon, chopped

2 bunches asparagus,  
trimmed, cut into 4cm  
lengths

2 garlic cloves, finely chopped  
½ cup parmesan, grated, plus  
extra to serve

1 lemon (finely grated zest,  
plus 1 tablespoon juice)

Pepper

Basil leaves, to serve

**STEP 1** Cook pasta in a large saucepan of boiling salted water, following packet instructions, until al dente.

**STEP 2** Meanwhile, heat half of the oil in a large frying pan on high. Gently fry bacon for 2-3 minutes until crisp. Reduce heat to medium. Add asparagus and garlic and cook for 1-2 minutes, until asparagus is almost tender.

**STEP 3** Drain pasta and return to pan. Add bacon mixture with remaining ingredients and oil. Season to taste and toss well. Serve topped with basil and extra parmesan.

# **WEEK 4**

**15  
MINS**

### **TIP**

“Al dente” means to cook until tender with a slight bite.





TUESDAY

40  
MINS

## SPICY SAUSAGE & EGGPLANT PILAF

SERVES 4

PREP 15 MINUTES

COOK 25 MINUTES

\$3.40 PER SERVE

2 tablespoons olive oil  
 4 lamb sausages  
 1 onion, chopped  
 1 garlic clove, crushed  
 1 teaspoon curry powder  
 250g punnet cherry tomatoes, halved  
 1 finger eggplant, thinly sliced  
 3 cups long-grain rice, cooked  
 1 tablespoon currants  
 Salt and pepper  
 ¼ cup parsley leaves  
 Greek yoghurt and flatbread, to serve

**STEP 1** Heat oil in a large frying pan on medium. Cook sausages for 10-12 minutes, turning, until well browned and cooked through. Remove from pan. Let cool, then slice to about 1cm thickness.

**STEP 2** Gently fry onion and garlic in the same pan for 1-2 minutes, until onion is tender. Add curry powder and cook for 1 minute, stirring, until fragrant. Mix in tomatoes and eggplant and cook for 2-3 minutes.

**STEP 3** Return sausages to pan with rice. Cook for 4-5 minutes, stirring, until heated through. Add currants and season to taste. Serve sprinkled with parsley. Accompany with yoghurt and flatbread.

**TIP** It's best to use cooked rice that's been cooled, to ensure the dish does not become guggy. If cooking rice from scratch, you will need 1 cup raw.

WEDNESDAY

22  
MINS

## CREAMY TOMATO & CHILLI MUSSELS

SERVES 4 PREP 10 MINUTES

COOK 12 MINUTES \$3.65 PER SERVE

1 tablespoon olive oil  
 1 red onion, thinly sliced  
 2 garlic cloves, thinly sliced  
 ¾ cup white wine  
 400g can diced tomatoes  
 1 teaspoon chilli flakes  
 1kg black mussels, cleaned

½ cup thickened cream  
 ½ cup frozen peas  
 1 tablespoon chopped parsley,  
 plus extra to serve  
 Crusty bread and lemon  
 cheeks, to serve

**STEP 1** Heat oil in a large saucepan on medium. Gently fry onion and garlic for 2-3 minutes, until tender.

**STEP 2** Add wine and bring to the boil on high. Cook for 2-3 minutes until reduced by half. Add tomatoes and chilli. Bring to a simmer.

**STEP 3** Mix mussels into simmering sauce. Cook, covered, for 2-3 minutes, until mussels open.

**STEP 4** Stir cream, peas and parsley through. Simmer for 1-2 minutes to heat through. Sprinkle with remaining parsley and serve with bread and lemon. ▶



## THURSDAY

35  
MINS

## COMBINATION SHORT SOUP

SERVES 4 PREP 25 MINUTES

COOK 10 MINUTES \$3.65 PER SERVE

2 litres chicken stock  
1 teaspoon grated ginger  
8 green prawns, peeled, deveined, tails intact  
1 bunch baby bok choy, quartered  
50g baby corn, halved  
Soy sauce, sliced green onion, sliced red chilli, to serve

**CHICKEN DUMPLINGS**  
200g chicken or turkey mince,  
4 green onions, finely chopped  
1 tablespoon soy sauce  
2 garlic cloves, crushed  
2 teaspoons ginger, grated  
16 wonton wrappers (available from supermarkets)

**STEP 1** In a large saucepan, bring stock to the boil with ginger. Reduce heat and keep warm.

**STEP 2** **CHICKEN DUMPLINGS** Meanwhile, in a medium bowl, combine mince, onions, soy, garlic and ginger. Spoon a heaped teaspoon into the centre of each wonton wrapper. Brush edges with a little water and pinch together to seal.

**STEP 3** Add dumplings to stock. Simmer gently, covered, for 3-4 minutes, until they float. Add prawns and bok choy and cook for 1 minute until prawns change colour.

**STEP 4** Season with soy sauce. Serve soup with onion and chilli on the side so everyone can sprinkle the amount they want.

**TIP** Dumplings can also be steamed or deep-fried, then served with a dipping sauce of black vinegar and chilli.

## FRIDAY

25  
MINS

## PORK &amp; NOODLE OMELETTE

SERVES 4 PREP 10 MINUTES

COOK 15 MINUTES \$3.55 PER SERVE

440g Singapore noodles  
1 tablespoon peanut oil  
250g pork mince  
1 capsicum, seeded, chopped  
2 teaspoons ginger, grated  
1 garlic clove, crushed  
1 cup bean sprouts, plus extra to serve

4 green onions, finely sliced  
¼ cup coriander, finely chopped  
8 eggs  
2 tablespoons soy sauce  
Snow pea sprouts and hoisin sauce, to serve

**STEP 1** Preheat grill to high. Soak noodles following packet instructions. Drain well.

**STEP 2** Heat oil in a medium non-stick frying pan on high. Brown mince for 3-4 minutes, breaking it up as it cooks.

**STEP 3** Add capsicum, ginger and garlic and stir-fry for 1-2 minutes. Add noodles, bean sprouts, onions and coriander. Mix well and spread evenly over base of pan.

**STEP 4** In a jug, whisk eggs and soy sauce together. Reduce heat to low and pour egg mixture over noodles. Cook for 8-10 minutes, until set underneath and around edges.

**STEP 5** Place pan under grill for 3-5 minutes until omelette is set in the centre. Serve in wedges, topped with snow-pea sprouts and drizzled with hoisin sauce. ■



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MAKE IT YOURSELF

# STEP-BY-STEP APPLE TART

**SERVES** 6-8 **PREP** 30 MINUTES **COOK** 40 MINUTES **\$0.30 A SLICE**

This classic and delicious apple tart is the perfect treat to whip up on a lazy day. Just follow these **eight easy steps**.

**375g block puff pastry**  
**50g blanched almonds, finely chopped**  
**4 Fuji or Gala apples**  
**½ cup lemon juice, for rubbing apples**  
**30g butter, melted**  
**¼ cup caster sugar**  
**Vanilla ice cream, to serve**

**STEP 1** Preheat oven to 240°C (220°C fan forced). Roll out pastry on a lightly floured surface to 4mm thickness.

**STEP 2** Using a knife, carefully cut out a 24cm-diameter circle from the pastry – use an upturned bowl as a guide.

**STEP 3** Place pastry on an oven tray lined with baking paper. Scatter with chopped almonds and refrigerate until required.

**STEP 4** Working quickly, peel apples and remove cores. Rub apples with lemon juice to prevent discolouring.

**STEP 5** Thinly slice apples using a mandolin slicer.

**STEP 6** Arrange slices in closely overlapping concentric rings on pastry, starting from the outside and working towards the centre.

**STEP 7** Brush apples evenly with melted butter.

**STEP 8** Scatter apples and pastry with sugar and bake for 35-40 minutes, turning tray occasionally until pastry is crisp and apples are golden and caramelised. Serve with ice-cream. **H+**

## Looking good

Slice apples as thinly as possible to create a beautiful overlapping pattern on the tart.





**TIP** Refrigerate tart for 3 hours, then slice straight away and leave for 15 to 20 minutes to come to room temperature before serving.

**70  
MINS**

**Just like the pros**

This gorgeous apple tart is easy to make yet looks and tastes sensational.





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# BEFORE AND AFTER RENOS

( READERS' EXPERIENCES, TIPS & BUDGETS )

**\$7968.28  
ZONING &  
FURNITURE  
RENO!**

## Industrial style

The contemporary lights were hung in a cluster of five in varying heights.

## Exotic patterns

A collection of vibrant cushions brought the East-meets-West look together.

## All set!

The floor-level table was handmade by Baz and his team, and cost a fraction of what it would to buy one.

**THIS MONTH** BARRY HELPS A COUPLE ZONE OUT THEIR OPEN-PLAN HOME



LIVING ROOM RENO WITH BARRY DU BOIS

# OPEN-PLAN ZONING

Bhakti and Manan wanted their Sydney home to reflect their new Australian lifestyle but also pay tribute to their **Indian heritage**.

## AFTER

**Window treatment**  
The Amalfi “Hamble” mirror from Zanui creates an illusion of added space.



## BEFORE

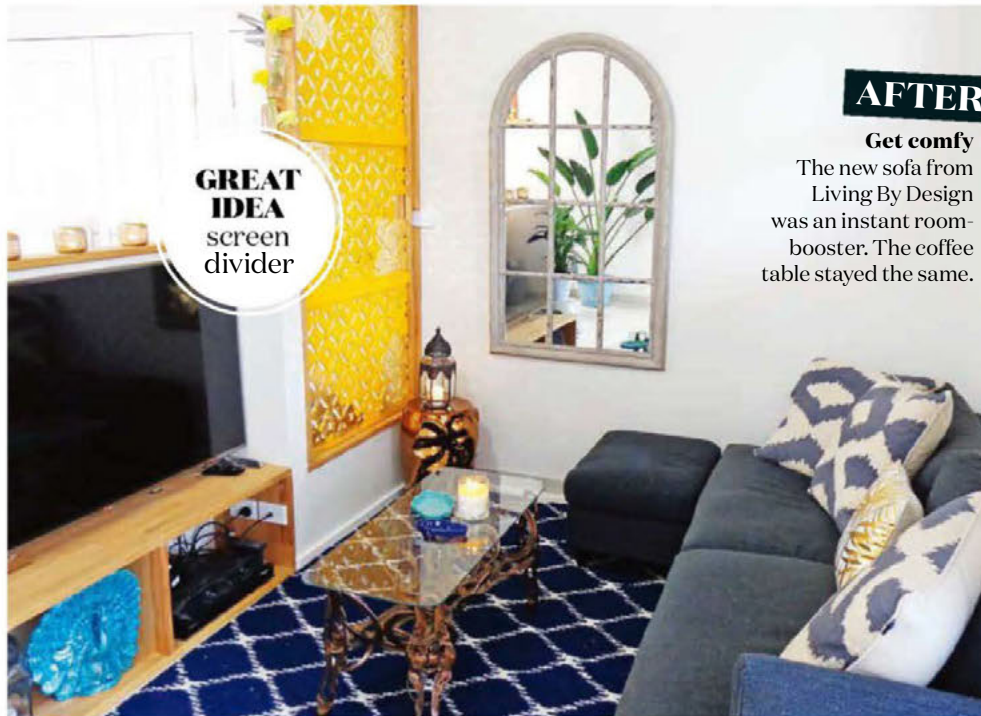
### A little lacking

The living room looked empty and the tiled floor felt cold – it needed warmth and colour.



**BARRY DU BOIS** from *The Living Room* was given the challenge of transforming Manan and Bhakti's home in Sydney's Inner West into a cosy space bursting with their traditional Indian style. The couple recently moved into their first home and immediately got to work, adding new tiled flooring and a few coats of paint. Bhakti also used her original artworks to add colour to the walls, but their efforts left them unsatisfied. Barry used his expertise to zone out the open-plan home and create a colourful oasis that the couple would feel comfortable in.





**GREAT  
IDEA**  
screen  
divider

## AFTER

**Get comfy**  
The new sofa from Living By Design was an instant room-booster. The coffee table stayed the same.



## DURING

### Hands-on job

Barry got Manan's assistance in making the half wall, which separates the living room from the rest of the home.

## BARRY'S OPEN-PLAN SPACE ZONING TIPS

- 1 "Begin with understanding the **relationship that you and others will have within the room**," Baz says. You need to think about where you will want to eat, relax and entertain and zone accordingly.
- 2 "Always determine the **entry points to the individual spaces**." Pay attention to how you move around the space – there will be a natural flow into and out of each zone. This will help you decide where to place furniture.
- 3 "Often there is a **natural focal point in a room**, a natural vista. If not, you can create a focal point by displaying something, like art."

Follow Barry on Twitter and Instagram @Baz\_DuBois

## LIVING ZONE

After falling in love with a designer couch in a showroom, Bhakti and Manan needed to have it. It wasn't until the couch arrived at their home that they realised just how cold, empty and unappealing it made the space look and feel. To resolve this issue, Barry, Bhakti and Manan got their DIY on, creating a freestanding half wall and adding a perforated screen to zone the space out. The room was finished off with a new couch and colourful accessories. The result? A stylish and snug retreat.

## DINING ZONE

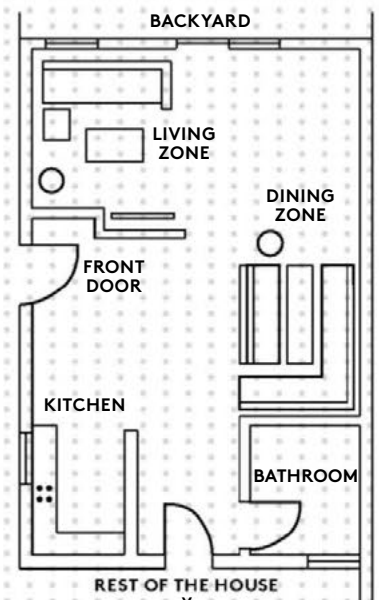
Traditional floor-level seating and a new table were made for the dining nook, which looked uninviting and consisted of an old tabletop and cushions. The divider screens were painted a bright yellow to add a bold splash of colour. "The screen design is what we usually see in India – we love it," Manan says. As a finishing touch, Bhakti's artworks were added to the new floating shelf. ▶

## MEET BHAKTI



**About me** My name is Bhakti and I'm an artist. My husband Manan and I recently moved here from India, and now call our new apartment in Sydney home. We need help turning our open-plan living and dining area into a comfortable, cosy and stylish space.

**The makeover** "To make the most of the apartment's natural flow I'm creating three zones: an open entry, a dining space and a cosy lounge room," Barry says. "To define the three zones I'll use a half wall and some perforated screens. This will separate the space but still maintain the open feeling that the couple love."







## BEFORE

### Great divide

The dining area was shoved into a corner, separated by some shelves from the rest of the apartment.

## FINISHING TOUCHES

Some key pieces from Zanui completed the look. "It's like a dream come true. It's exactly what we were after and it looks amazing!" Bhakti explains. The combination of Indian and Western motifs brought the look to life, and the cold space has been turned into a cosy, comfortable home that the couple can't wait to entertain in. ■



**GREAT IDEA**  
floor-level dining

## AFTER

### Plant life

A Rogue artificial traveller palm adds a touch of greenery to the colour-focused space.

## step-by-step make it!



## DURING

### Golden touch

Inexpensive imitation gold leaf is easy to apply and creates a gleaming finish.

## SCREEN ROOM DIVIDER

**You will need** 3 Outdeco "Gardenscreen" screening panels in Lantern (1.2m x 60cm); Taubmans 3-in-1 undercoat; Taubmans Endure paint in Gold Begonia; mini roller kit with tray; imitation gold leaf sheets; gold-leaf adhesive; 2 paintbrushes (1 for gluing, 1 for brushing).

- STEP ONE** Lay screens flat on a table. Apply undercoat to the screens. Once dry, apply two coats of paint.
- STEP TWO** Attach screens to area of choice. Screens can be hung or used as dividers. When used as dividers, you need to attach the screens to pre-built frames.
- STEP THREE** Apply imitation gold leaf sheets following packet instructions.





## AFTER

**Dine in style**  
Candle votives from Kmart, which were spray painted gold, add a beautiful ambience to the dining zone.

## step-by-step make it!

### MAKE YOUR OWN TABLE

**You will need** Timber offcuts; drill and 19mm spade drill bit; beech laminated panel (2.2m x 60cm x 27mm); circular saw; Tasmanian oak dowel (19mm x 1.2m), cut into 10 pieces; Aquadhere PVA glue; clamps; hammer; sandpaper; paintbrush; furniture oil.

**STEP ONE** Make a template to use when drilling holes into the tabletop and base. Do this by drilling 19mm holes into a timber offcut the width of your tabletop.

**STEP TWO** To make the base, cut two side panels (40cm x 40cm) and one spine (1.6m x 20cm) from the timber panel. Assemble base by placing spine between side panels to form an "H" shape. Glue pieces together.

**STEP THREE** To make the table, cut remaining timber to the size you want the tabletop to be. Clamp template to the end of your table. Drill holes through table top using spade drill bit. Repeat on other end.

**STEP FOUR** Clamp template to base and drill holes to align exactly with holes on table top. Apply some glue in the holes.

**STEP FIVE** Position tabletop on base, making sure you align holes exactly.

**STEP SIX** Apply more glue in tabletop holes.

**STEP SEVEN** Place dowel into a hole. Sit a block of wood on top of dowel and hammer into place. Repeat with remaining holes.

**STEP EIGHT** Lightly sand tabletop, wipe clean and then apply a coat of furniture oil.

### BUDGET BREAKDOWN

#### WALLS & SCREENS

Stud wall, **\$60.15**

Decorative screens, **\$102.83**

#### FURNITURE

Table and TV unit, **\$185.50**

Built-in seat, **\$108.35**

Retro 2.5-seater sofa in Charcoal, **\$1529**

Polo ottoman in Charcoal, **\$369**

Elephant decorative stool in Gold, **\$478**

#### LIGHTING

Replica Tom Dixon pendants, **\$449.95 for 5**

Petra Lantern, **\$109.95 for 4**

Moorish Etching lantern, **\$179.85**

Casablanca lantern in Medium, **\$194.85**

#### HOMEWARES & ACCESSORIES

Including rugs, art, candles, tableware and soft furnishings, **\$4200.85**

**total \$7968.28**

\* For more budget makeovers and renovations, visit [homesplushmag.com.au](http://homesplushmag.com.au)



## STYLIST'S CHALLENGE

# WIN A \$1000 MAKEOVER

Your interior needs some styling  
but you don't know where to  
start – or you've run out of cash?  
Enter **Super Stylist Jackie...**

### Colour connection

Jackie has given Sarà  
the change and colour  
her living room needed.



## BUDGET BREAKDOWN

**TOP PICKS** 1 Clarity **table lamp** in Teal, \$34.95, from Freedom. 2 Sanela **cushion cover** in Pink, \$10, from Ikea. 3 Linen House "Cody" **cushion** in Peach, \$24.95, from Pillow Talk. 4 Ramsättra **TV bench**, \$199, from Ikea. 5 Linen House "Cody" **cushion** in Turquoise, \$24.95, from Pillow Talk. 6 Bennett **floor rug**, \$349, from Freedom. 7 Holt **coffee table**, \$299, from Freedom.

**OTHER PRODUCTS** Talleo **vessel** in Blush, \$24.95, from Freedom. 3 x Sanela **velvet cushion covers** in Light Turquoise and Pink, \$10 each, from Ikea.

**total: \$996.80**



# Before

TURN OVER  
TO SEE AFTER

## The great divide

The original layout of the furniture made the room feel more enclosed, which resulted in the room feeling smaller.

ELEVEN YEARS AGO Sarà Lanesman, 47, her husband Rob, 53, and two kids Brad, 15, and Mia, 11, moved to their current home in North Ryde, NSW. It was easy to maintain and had a lovely feeling from the moment they walked through the front door. "The house was in a fairly good condition, but it needed some updating," Sarà says. Initially, she was keen to eradicate the multicoloured, mismatched decor and create a more neutral tone but, over time, Sarà felt the living room needed a change. "I enjoyed the monochromatic colour scheme, but having lived with it for the last few years I felt the room needed an injection

**"We were always hesitant to put in a coffee table as we thought it would close in the room." – Sarà**





## BEFORE

### Feeling lacklustre

The configuration of the furniture wasn't making the most of the view and the artwork looked lost on such a large wall.



## AFTER

### Leading the charge

Jackie changed the position of Sarà's artwork and flipped it to portrait style so it's more prominent.

### Orange zest

Colourful cushions reflect the vibrant hues in the artwork above and in the rug.

**“Although there is now more furniture in the room, it somehow feels more spacious.” – Sarà**



## AFTER

### Heartfelt hangings

Two black pen drawings by Sarà's mother were moved to a spot that shows them off.



## BEFORE

### Corner clutter

In the original layout, the bulky TV was the focal point of the room.



# After

of bright colours. The difficulty, I find, is how to bring colours into a room," Sarà explains. "I don't feel confident choosing furniture that will match and blend with existing pieces." Luckily, Super Stylist Jackie knew just how to bring the room up to date.

"I added colour with cushions that complemented Sarà's large artwork, and grounded the space with a striped rug," Jackie tells. "The coffee table brings a focal point and sense of community and rearranging the couches makes the space more inviting."

So, what does Sarà think? "The whole family loves the new look – the colours, the welcoming feel and, although there is now more furniture in the room, it somehow feels more spacious," Sarà says. "We also love the warm and cosy feeling the lamp gives the lounge in the evening." ■

**GREAT  
IDEA**  
flipped  
artwork

## Open table

A contemporary coffee table from Freedom creates a central focal point – not to mention it's very useful to have!

## Wide open

The new layout is more inviting and draws attention to the view of the pool in the backyard.



# BEST BUYS

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## UPRIGHT VACUUMS



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**GOES THE DISTANCE**  
S192 Upright **vacuum cleaner**, \$399, from Miele.  
A highly manoeuvrable vacuum with an extra-long 9-metre cord.



**BEST BUY**  
**\$247**

**PERFECT FOR PETS**  
Bissell "Lift Off Pet" upright **vacuum**, \$247, from The Good Guys.  
At 7.8kg it's lightweight and very good at picking up pet hair.



**GREEN MACHINE**  
Electrolux Z8805AZ "Precision" upright **vacuum cleaner**, \$499, from Godfreys.  
The washable HEPA filtration captures 99.9% of dust and dirt.

## BAGLESS



**HEALTH HELPER**  
Philips "PowerPro" **vacuum cleaner**, \$199, from Target.  
This vacuum's filter catches microscopic vermin, which can cause allergies.



**AT YOUR CONVENIENCE**  
Kambrook bagless **vacuum cleaner**, \$119, from Target.  
CaptivG3 cyclonic technology works to keep the vacuum's filter cleaner for longer.



**POWER TO SHINE**  
Vax "Power 6" 2000W barrel **vacuum**, \$149, from The Good Guys.  
Its crevice tool allows you to clean nooks and crannies easily.



**BEST BUY**  
**\$95**

**HEAVY DUTY**  
Piranha bagless **vacuum** in Ruby, \$95, from Kmart.  
Has a powerful 2400W motor and a large 3-litre dust-container capacity.

## BARREL VACUUMS



**KEEP IT QUIET**  
Bosch "Runn'n Pro Silence" bagless **vacuum cleaner**, \$499, from Domayne.  
Its SilenceSound system keeps noise to a minimum.

**BEST BUY**  
**\$169**



**CYCLONIC TECHNOLOGY**  
Hoover "Challenger 3011" bagless **vacuum**, \$169, from Godfreys.  
The Genuine Gulper floor tool makes for great pickup on carpets and hard floors.



**ON ALL FOUR WHEELS**  
Karcher 1400W wet & dry **vacuum**, \$98, from Bunnings.  
The special cartridge filter makes wet and dry vacuuming possible without changing filters or bags.



**SMOOTH MOVEMENT**  
Samsung 2000W bagless **vacuum**, \$399, from Bing Lee.  
Features a dust sensor, which signals a red light when a dusty spot is detected.





## HANDY FEATURES

Bissell 3396F 2-in-1 lift-off stick **vacuum cleaner**, \$199, from Godfreys.

Has a removable hand vac and folds in half for easy storage.



## POWERFUL SUCTION

Dyson DC59 cordless handstick **vacuum cleaner** in Grey, \$498, from Masters Home Improvement.

Longer vacuuming time thanks to a re-engineered battery.



## VERSATILE VAC

Bissell "Bolt" 18V stick **vacuum**, \$229, from The Good Guys.

The vacuum head swivels up to 180°, so you can smoothly move around furniture.



**BEST  
BUY  
\$239**

## READY FOR ACTION

Electrolux "Ergorapido" 2-in-1 stick **vacuum** in Watermelon Red, \$239, from Harvey Norman.

Detach the handheld vacuum for easy cleaning of stairs.

## STICK VACUUMS



**BEST  
BUY  
\$99**

## COMPACT CLEANER

Hoover "Quickpick" backpack **vacuum cleaner** in Lime, \$99, from Godfreys.

Available in three fun colours and includes easy-to-remove bags.



## COMMERCIAL STANDARD

Pullman PV14BE backpack **vacuum cleaner**, \$429, from Godfreys.

Can be used with or without a vacuum bag.



ERGONOMICALLY DESIGNED Nilfisk GD5 backpack **vacuum cleaner**, \$336.27, from Tensens.

Has a 15-metre detachable cable with safety release and is built from recycled components.

## BACKPACK VACUUMS



## QUICK &amp; POWERFUL

Electrolux "Rapido" 18V hand-held **vacuum**, \$179, from David Jones.

Has two comfortable grip positions and a pull-out nozzle for hard-to-reach areas.



**BEST  
BUY  
\$39.98**

## LONG-LIFE BATTERY

Hoover 7.2V "Handivac" wet & dry **vacuum** in Red, \$39.98, from Masters Home Improvement.

This little gem works a treat both indoors and out.



## STRONG &amp; LIGHTWEIGHT

Dyson DC58 "Animal" hand-held **vacuum cleaner**, \$329, from Harvey Norman.

Provides three times the suction of any other hand-held vacuum.



## EASY TO USE

Vax "Unique Gator Mouth" hand-held **vacuum cleaner**, \$89.95, from Harvey Norman.

Includes a powered brush roll, perfect for vacuuming pet hairs. **H+**

## HAND-HELD



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NOW!**



# M Y BACKYARD

( GET BACK TO NATURE )

**BACKYARD  
DECOR &  
GROW YOUR  
OWN!**

## **Upcycled timber**

Take a trip to the tip and look for old fence posts and lengths of timber to build your cool cubby house.

## **Potted colour**

For an added dose of colour in the garden, scatter pots of petunias (pictured) or begonias.

## **Safety first!**

Make sure the ladder is securely attached to the cubby to ensure a safe entry and exit. ►

**THIS MONTH** A COLOURFUL GARDEN, PLANTS FOR SCREENING & VEGIE PLANNER



**SHOW US  
YOUR  
BACKYARD  
& WIN  
\$1000**  
see how on  
pg 129



**Tall order**  
Lilly pilly mop top standards add an element of height.

## MEET REBECCA



Bec Russel, pictured here with Misty the cat, has a home-based business that specialises in colour consulting and coordinating renovation jobs and bathroom design for other busy mums. She loves the fact that this gives her a great balance between home life and work – not to mention a creative outlet.



**GREAT  
IDEA**  
hedge  
dividers

**Neat & tidy**  
Manicured Japanese box hedges define the outdoor dining area from the pool and the rest of the garden.

THE COLOURFUL GARDEN **REBECCA & GARY**

## PRETTY IN PINK

A splash of bright colour and a cool cubby house results in a **kid- and adult-friendly oasis.**

**THIS BACKYARD WAS** painted in such sombre greys that it cried out for a dose of fun and some softening. The owners, Rebecca (Bec) and Gary Russell, wanted to inject some colour for their three children. They needed the backyard to be both classical and formal, yet child friendly and magical. Colour had to play a lead role, too, as Bec loves pink and red.

### BLAND BEGINNINGS

"The garden was navy and grey previously and the house was dating badly so I wanted to freshen it all up," Bec explains. "The kids are outside all the time so I wanted to create a fun atmosphere for them." Bec was studying colour at the time and wanted to incorporate splashes of it throughout the backyard.



### ENCHANTING ADDITION

The Russell family entertain a lot and always have friends and family over. "Barbecues and pool time is massive in our lives," Bec says. The two older children, Madeline, 11, and Blake, nine, always have plenty to do in the pool, but Amelia, four, needed her own safe play zone. The addition of a cubby house, complete with a pink exterior and other pretty additions, sets an enchanting scene. "Milly plays in her cubby every day, taking her dolls and teddies up there for tea parties," which was exactly as Bec intended. "I can see the cubby from the kitchen, too."

### COLOUR ME HAPPY

Some of the retaining walls were given a coat of musk-pink paint to turn them into sensuous two-tone curving lines of colour. Pink foliage plants, such as the NZ flax, pink variegated border plant (*Alternanthera*) and potted flowering petunias, add some living colour. »

**"The kids are outside all the time so I wanted to create a fun atmosphere for them."**



**Jumping joy**  
A trampoline provides hours of fun for Amelia and her two siblings.



**Peek-a-boo!**  
Amelia searches for fairies in the garden.



**Beaut border**  
Dogs Amber and Bella love to run and play in the paved area. Grey pebbles help to define the garden beds.

**Lush look**  
Foliage colours complement the bright pops of pink.



**TIP**  
Paint your garden beds in a striking colour – it's an affordable way to create visual contrast.





#### Cute details

The bunting adds a fun and festive flavour.



#### It's play time

Amelia loves hosting tea parties in her girly cubby – dogs are welcome, too.



**GREAT  
IDEA**  
DIY cubby  
house

#### Girls only

The cubby house is fit for a princess featuring pink, pink and more pink!



#### Flower power

Paintings by Bec decorate a wall in the cubby house.



#### Colour bomb

Striking-coloured foliage echoes the pots and wall paint.

The cubby and terracotta pots were given a coat of pink paint, and Bec's own flowering works of art also add some interest. The beauty of this is that the colour can easily be changed depending on the season and fancy, as each element is relatively changeable.

#### PERFECT PLANTS

The planting is pared back and simple for maximum impact. Lilly pillly mop top standards mark the entrance to the pool zone, and clipped murraya hedges create privacy and perfume. Japanese box forms a divider for the eating area, and Chinese star jasmine softens some of the masonry and adds a heady scent to late spring evenings. The various shades of green complement the pink tones to great effect. ■



MAKE IT YOURSELF

# EASY TERRARIUMS

A new take on an old style, terrariums are back! Turn a glass fish bowl or a cookie jar into a fabulous living work of art.

## TIP

Any large glass jar can become a terrarium – and a lid is purely optional as well.

### BEGIN WITH

- 1 Clear glass or plastic container
- 2 Gravel for drainage
- 3 Quality potting mix
- 4 Selection of plants
- 5 Mist spray bottle



**STEP 1** Using a spoon or a small scoop, fill the base of the container with a 3-5cm layer of small gravel or pebbles for improved soil drainage. Tip: use coloured gravel that works well with the plants' foliage colours.

**STEP 2** Next, add some good-quality potting mix, just enough to accommodate the roots of your chosen plants – about 3-5cm deep should be about the right depth of potting mix. You can add a little more later to cover the roots.

**STEP 3** Reduce the root mass on the plants by teasing out or

cutting off some of the roots with a clean, sharp knife. New feeder roots will grow in the potting mix.

**STEP 4** To get the visual effect right, plant the taller plants in the centre, or at the back, then surround with shorter plants and groundcovering plants such as dichondra (which we used here), moss or baby's tears.

**STEP 5** Very lightly mist the container with water from a spray bottle. Don't overdo it, as there are no drainage holes for water in the terrarium. Err on the side of less rather than more water. **H•**

**PLANTS** Select small, young indoor plants like parlour palms, button or hare's foot ferns, selaginella and syngonium. Shade lovers like ajuga, dichondra (kidney weed), native violets, baby's tears, mini mondo grass and common moss are all perfectly good terrarium choices.

**WATERING** Terrariums make condensation which drips down the inside, so plants need very little additional water. If closed containers get too wet, leave the lid off for several days.

**DIFFICULTY RATING CHART**

➤ EASY AS 1, 2, 3

➤➤ A BIT HARDER

➤➤➤ GET A FRIEND TO HELP YOU



A modern outdoor lounge area featuring a dense bamboo screen in the background. In the foreground, there are several wooden armchairs with dark cushions and a low wooden sofa with patterned cushions. A small white table holds a bowl and some papers. The floor is made of light-colored gravel.

GARDENING ADVICE

# SCREEN TIME

Create your own private oasis with well-chosen **screening plants** and a little know-how from garden guru **Dale Vine**.

## TIP

Screening plants need regular upkeep. Make time to give them what they need to be at their most effective.

## All grown up

If you're looking for a screening plant with a difference, you could use bamboo.



### Hedge your bet

*Cupressocyparis leylandii* 'Leighton Green' is a great choice for a dense hedge.

### Smells like summer

Orange blossom will provide privacy and perfume with its distinctive fragrant white flowers.

### Overgrown style

Orange blossom grows into a hedge that looks great either bushy, as shown here, or clipped.

**MAYBE YOU'VE** got a nosy neighbour or the house next door overlooks your outdoor setting. Whatever the problem, screening plants may be your solution.

First you'll need to figure out how high, wide and dense you want your plants. For behind a front fence you may want a low-growing hedge, or a tall-growing privacy screen around a pool. Once you know what your needs are, selecting the right species is a whole lot easier.

### Lilli pilly (*Syzygium smithii*)

The lilli pilly is popular due to its summer flowering and glossy green leaves. Its new growth has a pink flush of colour and the plant also produces maroon edible berries. It grows between 3-5m tall, but can be maintained at a shorter height. Be aware that birds also like to eat the berries and their red droppings will stain pavements and decks.

### *Cupressocyparis leylandii* 'Leighton Green'

This is a fast-growing conifer, excellent as a screening plant or trimmed into a hedge. It has a very dense forming habit and can reach heights of more than 5m

## "If it's a dark area of your garden, go for bright foliage to reflect light."

in 10 years and can grow to more than 15m. Not for small gardens, unless you have time to keep it at a smaller size.

### *Photinia* 'Red Robin'

Photinias make for a vibrant hedge or screen. Their new foliage varies between fiery red to bronze and becomes the feature of this plant. It's a medium-fast growing plant that reaches 1-3m in height and up to 1.2m wide. If not allowed to grow to its natural width, it can appear twiggy due to its large leaf.

### Bamboo

A non-invasive clumping variety is a good option. *Bambusa multiplex* 'Alphonse Karr' is my pick. Its pinkish shoots become green-striped yellow culms. It also responds well to pruning and reaches between 5-8m.

*Photinia*

*Pittosporum tenuifolium*

*Viburnum tinus*

### Other commonly used screening plants

*Pittosporum tenuifolium* 'James Stirling'; *Viburnum odoratissimum* (fast growing) or *Viburnum tinus* (slower growing); *Buxus* 'Box hedge'; *Waterhousea floribunda* (weeping lilli pilly).

### Orange Blossom (*Murraya paniculata*)

This fast-growing shrub has glossy green foliage with dense growth and white fragrant flowers. Great used as a small hedge or screen, it can grow up to 3m high x 1.2m wide and flowers in spring and summer. It loves sunny positions. For gardens in the south, maybe choose *Choisya*, a very similar plant that grows better in cool climates. ■



## GARDEN PLANNER

# WHAT TO DO IN THE GARDEN THIS MONTH

**Dale Vine** talks garden necessities for the approach of the cold autumn months.

### What to plant

**Pansies** are an old-fashioned favourite that are a close relative to the popular viola. They are a small, compact-growing annual that can be planted now to flower in late autumn to spring. Their flowers also come in a variety of styles, most with black in the centre of the flower but some also have bicoloured, frilly and striped flowers. They add a cheery appearance to any garden bed, pot or hanging basket, and love a position of full sun. However, they will still grow in partial shade but may not flower as well. They are great for a garden that is otherwise lacking in colour.

### ABOUT DALE

You may recognise **Dale Vine** from TV's *The Block*, but he's actually a landscaper by trade (and now our garden guru!). Follow Dale on Instagram: @vineyd



#### Brighten it up

Due to their massive colour range, pansies have stayed a favourite amongst gardeners.

## MARCH

### WEEK 1

#### PREPARING FOR BULBS

March is the perfect time to prepare for the planting of bulbs by **improving the soil structure** of your pots and garden beds. This can be achieved by mixing through old manure, broken-down composts and dynamic lifter. By doing this now, your soil will be packed full of easily absorbed nutrients by the time you sow your spring-flowering bulbs in April.

### WEEK 2

#### FEED

In areas that receive heavy summer rains, the amount of water that falls in short periods of time can leach the nutrients and goodness out of the soil. March is a great time to feed your garden using long-lasting, **controlled-release plant foods** that will continue to feed over many months to come. In cooler regions, a fast-acting fertiliser is better.

### WEEK 3

#### PRUNE

Hedges, topiary and climbers can have a **final trim** in March. Don't trim wisteria until you see where their flower buds are developing. All **evergreen varieties** can be reshaped and maintained now that they have finished flowering. A rule to pruning is to take off one third of a plant's growth, but it depends on what size and shape you want.

### WEEK 4

#### AERATE LAWN AND RE-SOW

Get out your pitchforks or strap on your spiked aeration sandals because it's time to **put some holes in your lawn** to aerate it. The holes you create alleviate soil compaction and allow air, water and nutrients into your lawn's root system. Once aerated, feed your lawn with a lawn fertiliser and top with a fine sand or well-draining soft loam.



## VEGIE PLANNER

## WHAT TO DO IN THE VEGIE PATCH THIS MONTH

Plant and harvest your vegies, combat pests and develop optimal fruit growth.

## Plant now



**Fresh beans**  
Beans are very easy to grow and can produce excellent yields.

**Turnips** are often judged as an old-fashioned vegetable, but, if you haven't tried them before, fresh home-grown turnips are a treat that everyone should experience. The smaller turnip can also be eaten raw – try thinly slicing it and putting it in a salad.

## Harvest now

Asparagus, beans (climbing and dwarf), capsicum, chives, cucumber, eggplant, pumpkin, squash and watermelon can all be picked now. For the vegetarians in the family, why not grill up some **asparagus**, **eggplant** and **squash** on the BBQ while the others are cooking their meat. You'd better put a lot on there though because even the meat eaters will be loving the delicious vegetarian option!

## MARCH

## WEEK 1

**HARDENING PUMPKINS**

March is the time to **harvest ripe pumpkins** and harden them off to store for later. Ripe pumpkins should display a uniform colour over the entire fruit and have hard skin that can't be easily punctured. Harvest the pumpkin leaving a good-length stem and place in a dry, sunny position for 7-14 days. Store hardened pumpkins in a dry, cool place.

## WEEK 2

**DIVIDING STRAWBERRIES**

By now your strawberry plants will have produced some visible **horizontal runners** from the mother plant. These runners can be kept off the soil surface and guided towards an area where you would like another plant to grow. When it reaches that point, let the runner rest on the soil and it will develop roots and form the beginning of a daughter plant.

## WEEK 3

**SOW YOUR PEAS**

Peas can be sown in March. **Snow peas** and **sugar snap** are great varieties to grow as they can be enjoyed raw or cooked. The **novella** variety are good for people with bad backs as they develop their pods at the top of the bush, making them easy to harvest. Make sure you've got a structure for the plant to climb, whether it be timber or wire.

## WEEK 4

**START A COMPOST HEAP**

With deciduous leaves beginning to turn beautiful shades of red, orange and yellow, this should be a reminder to knock up a compost area to **make use of the falling leaves** instead of getting rid of them. Decomposing leaves, mixed in with some pea straw, shredded newspaper, veggie peels and lawn clippings, can make for a great compost heap. ♻️



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**THIS MONTH** HOLIDAY HOMES, THE RIGHT EATING HABITS, EXPERTS' ADVICE, DIY BLACKBOARD



FAMILY HOLIDAY

# HOME COMFORTS

Rent out a **holiday property** and enjoy a change of scenery without giving up the comforts of home.

**WITH THE EASE** of online bookings, holiday property rentals are an increasingly popular, and inexpensive, accommodation option. Whether you're on looking for adventure, want quality family time or just want to relax, here are our picks.

## Lorne, Vic

### LORNE BEACH STAYS STUDIO APARTMENTS

**PERFECT FOR** Young families looking for a kid-centric beachside vacation.

**FEATURES** Perfect for a weekend break, these studios have a separate mezzanine-level bedroom and ensuite. They're also kitted out with a sofa bed downstairs for the kids.

**TO DO** Shops, eateries, the beach, family-friendly park and Lorne Sea Baths (with outdoor trampolines, mini golf and bumper boats) are a short stroll away. Possible day-trip destinations include The Twelve Apostles, Otway Fly Treetop Adventures (to take a walk above the rainforest) and Erskine Falls. *From \$110 per night.*

**WIN**  
\$650 towards a stay in an Aussie holiday property, thanks to **Stayz!**  
See page 128 for details.



## Surfers Paradise, Qld

### A LUX CIRCLE ON CAVILL

**PERFECT FOR** Couples and families who enjoy a bit of luxury, the buzz of city attractions and the beach.

**FEATURES** This one-bedroom plus study apartment is furnished in a modern style and, being located 27 floors up, has fabulous views of the city and hinterland from its

floor-to-ceiling windows. The Circle On Cavill resort also has a cinema room, barbecue area, three pools, a playground and a gym. **TO DO** Hit Main Beach, eat at local restaurants or go on a shopping spree. Plus, free theme-park shuttle buses stop on your doorstep. *From \$150 per night.*

## Kingston Beach, Tas

### RIVERMOUTH APARTMENT

**PERFECT FOR** Couples and families who want a comfy base they can explore from.

**FEATURES** Modern styling and amenities include a sleek designer kitchen and new bathroom, with water views from all rooms and a balcony that runs the length of this beachside apartment.

**TO DO** Walk across the road to Kingston Beach, or take a 10-minute drive to Hobart, where you can take the ferry to MONA art museum or visit Salamanca Market. You could also make a trip to Mt Wellington or Bruny Island or go further afield for wine tasting in the Huon Valley. *From \$155 per night.*





## Darwin, NT

### VILLAGE@PARAP APARTMENTS

**PERFECT FOR** Families who want to stay somewhere comfortable and convenient.

**FEATURES** These recently built apartments are less than 5 minutes from the CBD. All are styled with modern pieces and have air-con, a washer and dryer.

**TO DO** Go out with a splash at Wave Lagoon or walk to Fannie Bay for a swim. Get up close to the locals at Crocosaurus Cove, stop by the Museum & Art Gallery of the NT or try the Defence of Darwin Experience. Further afield, Berry Springs is a great spot for a day trip. *From \$130 per night.*



## Glenelg, SA

### GLENELG SA

**PERFECT FOR** Couples or families looking for a neat retreat by the beach.

**FEATURES** This split-level, two-bedroom apartment is on the fourth floor, away from the hustle and bustle of the street, and has a balcony with a lovely green outlook over Colley Reserve.

**TO DO** Take advantage of direct access to the beach and go for a swim or on a dolphin-watching cruise. The local park, cafes and The Beachouse family entertainment centre are a few minutes' walk, while Adelaide's city centre is a 25-minute tram ride away. *From \$140 per night.*

### COULD YOU RENT OUT YOUR HOME?

Here are some things potential guests will be looking out for...

#### LOCATION

- + Close to major cities (3-4 hours' drive)
- + Near the water, retail and dining hubs or other local attractions.

#### FEATURES

- + A pool, games room or a home theatre can set your property apart.

#### TIMING

- + When can people book, for how long and how often?

#### SUPPLY & DEMAND

- + Do your research on other properties in the area and keep a close eye on occupancy. This will give an indication of how much you can charge and what's popular in your locale.

**We discovered all  
of these properties,  
and more, on Stayz:  
[www.stayz.com.au](http://www.stayz.com.au)**



## Dunsborough, WA

### BEACH VILLA WHITESANDS

**PERFECT FOR** Couples and families who embrace the outdoors – and mod-cons.

**FEATURES** Set in beautifully landscaped grounds, this self-contained property has a two bedroom villa and a self-contained studio with spa, and outdoor dining and entertaining areas.

**TO DO** On the water, go fishing, whale watching, surfing or dive the HMAS Swan wreck. On land, nearby national parks have plenty of trails and great picnic sites, plus there's fresh produce and crafts at the local markets and world-renowned wineries at Margaret River. *From \$190 per night.*



## Manly, NSW

### IVANHOE APARTMENT

**PERFECT FOR:** Active families who love the outdoors and want to be in the middle of all the action.

**FEATURES** This kid-friendly apartment has a large living area and two bedrooms – one with a sunroom that looks out onto Manly Oval, right across the street.

**TO DO** It's an easy walk to Manly Beach, cafes and restaurants. You can also go snorkelling at nearby Cabbage Tree Bay, visit the Manly Aquarium, tackle the 10km Spit Bridge to Manly scenic walk or jump on the ferry for an easy and breezy ride into Circular Quay. *From \$200 per night.*







# 30s

TAKE CARE

## THE RIGHT FOODS FOR YOUR AGE

No matter what challenges you face in your day to day life, it's important to keep track of your **eating habits**.

**YOUR BODY AT 30** won't have the same requirements as at 60. Learn to understand your physique's changing needs and keep your focus on what you need to do to effortlessly improve your health and vitality, so that every day is a breeze.

### Essentials

While you might be tempted to skip whole food groups if you're following on-trend diets like the paleo diet or a sugar-free regimen, experts warn this may not be beneficial in the long term as a balanced diet is more sustaining. It's vital your diet be high in **B-group vitamins and iron**, which are found in foods like Vegemite and lean red meat.

### Danger zone

It can be easy to fall into the habit of eating lots of **processed convenient foods**, soft drinks, too much caffeine or takeaways. An over-emphasis on these meals isn't very beneficial. A balanced diet is much healthier. Buy seasonal fresh fruit and veg and try to include fish that are high in omega-3s on your dinner plate several times a week.

### Superfoods

**Raw cacao powder & chickpeas**  
Raw cacao powder is high in flavonoids and magnesium and has one of the highest antioxidant values of any foods. It is pretty rich so you won't need too much of it. Chickpeas, meanwhile, are high in vitamin B6, something your body may need more of if you are on the contraceptive pill or in a high-stress job.

### Rethink

#### Your attitude to snacking

It's easy to believe you can still eat a whole chocolate bar, a big box of popcorn filled with butter at the movies or a bag of lollies, especially if you're exercising regularly. However, your 30s really is the time to adopt some life-long healthy habits, and regular snacking ought to be on its way out.



## 40s

**Essentials**

This is when you realise you're not invincible, ironically at a time when you probably have more demands placed on you than ever. A balanced diet that helps you **combat fatigue, stay physically strong and provide energy** is essential. Make sure you eat plenty of leafy greens high in antioxidants and enough protein from a variety of sources.

**Danger zone**

This is when you can start to pile on the kilos as your metabolism slows down, so **avoid snacking** on sugary foods between meals, especially cakes, chocolate, sweets and biscuits, and attack any tummy bulges with yoga, jogging, weights or pilates. It's also extremely important to avoid skipping meals, which is often triggered by exhaustion.

**Superfoods****Milk and alfalfa**

Bone strength to avoid osteoporosis becomes important at this age, and drinking milk is an excellent way to top up your calcium levels, as is eating foods like almonds and low-fat yoghurt and cheese. Alfalfa is high in phytoestrogens, which helps balance hormone levels if you are near menopause.

**Rethink****Your attitude to alcohol**

Alcohol consumption among this age group is one of the highest in Australia, often triggered by the demands to be the "perfect" partner, friend and mother. While you may want to enjoy a glass or two with family and friends, keep an eye on how much you're drinking, and more to the point, your reliance on it.

## 50s

**Essentials**

While younger women may be diagnosed with serious illnesses like type-2 diabetes, stroke and cancer, this is the decade you need to be extra vigilant. A **diet high in nutrients and vitamins** to handle your body's changing hormones is crucial. Eating fish a few times a week can be beneficial to maintain memory and keep hunger levels at bay.

**Danger zone**

Keeping within a healthy weight range gets harder, but it's not impossible. Be strict about weighing yourself weekly, and keep an eye on **belly fat** as it's this area that can trigger health problems if your body mass index tips over the healthy weight range for your height. Exercise, to maintain flexibility and keep depression at bay, is a must.

**Superfoods****Oats and beetroot**

Porridge made with oats for breakfast is a great way to combat high cholesterol, which needs to be kept in check at this age. Beetroot is also good for bettering your stamina, improving blood flow and lowering blood pressure. Post-menopause, women also need to be more aware of their heart health.

**Rethink****Your attitude to sleep**

Many women in their 50s complain of sleep deprivation, especially if suffering hot flushes during menopause. Find ways to guarantee a good night's sleep. Install a fan or air-con, drink a glass of warm milk before bed, and don't check your smartphone, computer or tablet at night for texts or social media updates.

## 60s

**Essentials**

Maintain an interest in fresh food and don't fall into the "pensioner" trap of buying tinned or frozen foods because they're on special. Bowel health is important too, so make sure you are still eating **foods high in fibre** such as whole-grain bread, legumes and fresh vegies like red cabbage, mushrooms and broccoli.

**Danger zone**

It's not unusual to **lose your appetite** as you get older, so you need to have the right nutrients on your plate if your portions are becoming smaller. Include foods high in calcium, protein and some carbs. For example, a grilled chicken breast (skin off) and a mixed salad with a side of cheese, crackers and fruit salad would be ideal.

**Superfoods****Raw nuts and nutritional yeast**

Unsalted raw nuts are high in the nutrients you need, and nutritional yeast flakes are high in vitamin B, providing the flavour you may be looking for without adding large quantities of salt, which can raise blood pressure. Enjoy a handful of these on a daily basis.

**Rethink****Your attitude to hydration**

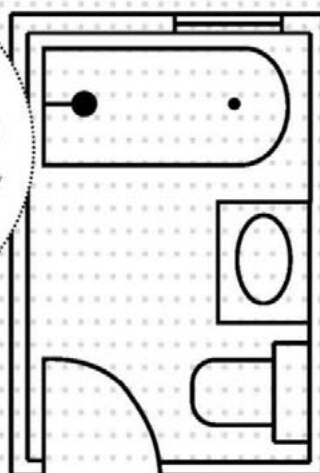
Older people don't always recognise that they may be dehydrated. It's a good idea to maintain same habits you **had when younger, like preparing** a jug of iced water with slices of lemon or lime and fresh mint to keep in the fridge and drink all day. You can also enjoy herbal teas if you prefer. ■





## ABOUT JAMES

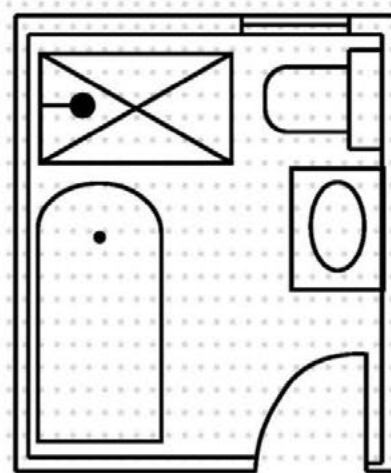
James Treble is a qualified colour consultant/interior designer, with over 20 years' experience in varied roles within the building and design industries.



1

### Two in one

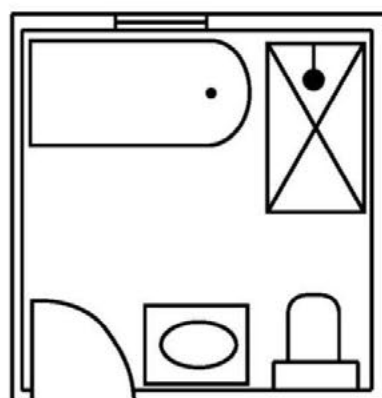
If space is tight and you want both a shower and tub, install a shower over the bath.



2

### Access all areas

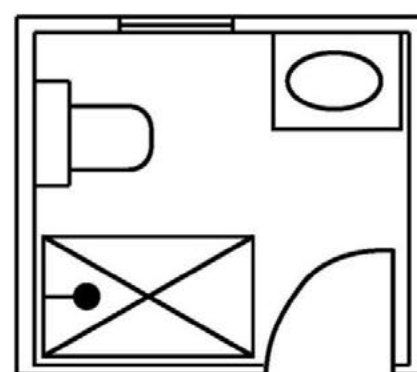
This layout allows clear access to all items – bath, shower, toilet and vanity.



3

### Hide the toilet

This layout works as ideally, you don't want to see the loo when you open the door.



4

### Shower only

These days, many people opt for a shower only to save space and to suit a busy lifestyle.

## DECOR SOLUTIONS

### WITH JAMES TREBLE

# BATHROOM – CHEAT SHEET

James gives his tips on creating a fab and functional **bathroom**.

**BATHROOMS ARE ONE** of the most expensive rooms in your home, second only to the kitchen. If you consider the cost of plumbing, tiling, tapware, baths and basins, you can easily see the dollars adding up. But it's one of the most used rooms in the house, so we want it to be both functional and beautiful. It's so easy to overspend in showrooms or tile stores, as well as make simple design blunders, so I'm going to provide some tips to consider when renovating your bathroom.



SMART CLASSIC  
Perma Products "Cosmo"  
toilet seat, \$16, from Masters  
Home Improvement.



NICE & SIMPLE  
Ezifix White toilet  
seat, \$5.99, from  
Bunnings.



SLICK BLACK  
Perma Products "Easy Fix"  
toilet seat, \$6.90 from Masters  
Home Improvement.

## THE LAYOUT

When designing the bathroom layout, it must always be **function over form!** Meaning its function is more important than the look. There are building codes and guidelines, which your plumber will be aware of, but it's essentially common sense as well. So when planning the layout, consider these points.

- + Make sure you can open the **shower door** without banging it against the **vanity**. Sounds simple but I see it happen on a constant basis.
- + Make sure your **bath** is big and deep enough to enjoy – it's not worth the use of space if you can't really use it.
- + Make sure you allow space for **towel rails** near the shower for ease of use.
- + Make sure you can access the **loo** easily and that you can **reach the toilet paper** – we've all been in bathrooms that have this problem!
- + Make sure the vanity you select has **enough storage**. Girls need more than boys, with hair dryers and the rest of their make-up, etc, so make sure you allow for all their stuff.



**Bathing beauty**

If you've got the space, nothing says luxury more than a freestanding tub.



**MODERN DESIGN**  
Raymor "Jamaica"  
rectangular **drop-in bath**,  
\$330, from Tradelink.

**PURE ELEGANCE**  
Alto **freestanding bath**, \$499,  
from Early Settler.

**EXTRA COMFY**  
Raymor "Recline" MKII  
**drop-in bath** with  
moulded arm-rests,  
\$180, from Tradelink.

**TOILETS**

Toilets can range greatly in pricing depending on the quality and look you're after, but here are the basics.

**BUDGET** A simple **link suite** is where the cistern is mounted to the wall and is separated from the pan with a PVC apron. You can buy one for under \$150.

**MID-RANGE** A **close-coupled suite** is where the cistern sits directly on top of the pan, which creates a cleaner look. A **wall-faced suite** sits flat against the wall, hiding the water connections and giving a modern, easy-to-clean finish. Look at spending about \$135 to \$500.

**PREMIUM** If you want a high-end look then go for a **concealed or in-wall** toilet where the cistern is built into the wall cavity so only the buttons show. You can have it floating off the floor, too. Spend about \$600 to \$1000.

**Try before...**

It's important to sit on a toilet you are interested in before you buy it to make sure it's the right height and comfort.

**BATHTUBS**

When you do have time for a good soak, you want to enjoy it. Therefore, the size and style of your bath is an important decision. Make sure you head to a showroom to try before you buy.

**BUDGET** **Inset baths** sit into a tiled hob – this is a more traditional-looking bath. If you're installing this type, make sure you sit inside it before buying it to see if it's long and wide enough. You can buy these for as little as \$120.

**MID-RANGE** For a more **designer look**, many inset baths have been moulded in slick, **modern shapes**. These can cost from \$330 to \$700.

**PREMIUM** If you have the room, go for a **freestanding bathtub**. They come in a variety of styles and materials from acrylic or resin to stone and metal. You'll pay up to \$800 – or more. »



**Bright & shiny**  
Installing gleaming  
new tapware is one  
of the easiest ways  
to update a tired  
old bathroom.

FOR SMALL SPACES  
Silveran/Lillangen  
**washbasin cabinet** in  
White, \$228, from Ikea.

**WIN**  
We're giving  
away 10 handy  
bathroom organisers  
from **Everloc**.  
See page 128  
for details.



BLACK OUT  
Mondella "Black  
Vivace" **basin mixer**,  
\$158, from Bunnings.



CHROME FINISH  
Kludi "Bozz" **basin  
mixer**, \$259, from  
Tradelink.



THE RIGHT ANGLE  
Mondella "Rococo"  
extended **basin  
mixer**, \$156, from  
Bunnings.



## TAPWARE

I spend a lot of time with my clients selecting the right tapware. I consider them to be the jewellery of the outfit and they can make or break a bathroom design. **Traditional** taps come in a set, being one for hot, one for cold and a spout. I prefer to use **mixers**, which are functional, easy to clean and provide a modern look.

Whatever style you go for, I suggest **buying quality**, especially for wall-mounted mixer taps, as replacing them may include removing tiles, which can be costly. Make sure you touch and feel the taps before buying to make sure they are as nice to use as they are to look at. Here's what you'll be paying:

**BUDGET** \$40 to \$150.

**MID-RANGE** \$150 to \$300.

**PREMIUM** \$300 to \$700.

## BASINS

There are four basic basin designs.

**Wall-hung basins** are perfect for small spaces with tight access. There is usually no storage underneath.

**Semi-recessed basins** are part recessed into the vanity so that the bowl sits forward. These are often used to allow more space in a tight floorplan.

**Above-counter basins** sit above the vanity top. Some sit high and others have a slim profile, depending on the desired look you're going for.

**Undermount basins** sit under the benchtop. This creates an uncluttered look that's great for modern spaces, but remember your tapware will have to be bench- or wall-mounted.

**BUDGET** \$75 to \$150.

**MID-RANGE** \$150 to \$400.

**PREMIUM** \$400 and up.



**Balancing act**  
Make your statement with patterned floor tiles and keep the wall tiles simple and elegant.

**TILE STYLE**  
Tiles from top: Cretement in **Ash White** (45cm x 45cm), \$35.50 a sq m, Mono hexagonal mosaic in **Black**, \$8.40 a sheet, and **Carrara Bianco** hexagon mosaic, \$412.60 a sq m, from Beaumont Tiles.

## JAMES'S COOL IDEAS

### 1. I LOVE USING...

**timber grain** in vanities, as I love the warmth of the wood look against the cold look and feel of tiles.

### 2. I ALWAYS HAVE...

**pot plants** in bathrooms. The plants love moisture and the green always makes the room feel bright and fresh.

### 3. I QUITE OFTEN...

use a **mirror** with an amazing gold or baroque frame instead of the usual polished-edge mirror as a statement piece – it can turn a standard bathroom into a show stopper.

\* For more expert advice, visit [homesplusmag.com.au](http://homesplusmag.com.au)

**GREEN POP**  
Crassula **potted plant**, \$12.99, from Ikea.



## TILES

Go for a style that sits well with the architecture and design of your home.

**Simple ceramic tiles** are always safe bets and by far the least expensive.

**Graphic or colourful** tiles may make a statement, but they are costly, both to buy and to change later – they will date quicker than more simple schemes. **Feature mosaics** can look striking but are costed per sheet, not per square meter, so just a rear wall for a shower may end up costing \$2000 or more.

**Natural stone** tiles need to be sealed to protect them from staining. You'll need to reseal over time, too.

Tiles cost from approx **\$30 to \$500 a square metre**, plus you have to add in the cost of labour and preparation.

## BIG-IMPACT UPDATES

If you want to give your bathroom a new look or you need to make your older bathroom look more modern, there are a few **cost-effective** things you can do. Consider installing new **tapware**, replacing the **showerscreen** or **toilet seat** and updating the **vanity**. All of these, or even just one of them, will spruce up your bathroom without going for a whole renovation.

**One last point:** remember to consult the professionals, do your research and collect all the images and information you can. All of that well-spent "homework" time will make sure you end up with an amazing bathroom that you will love for years to come. ■



## ELIMINATION CHALLENGE

THE BLOCK  
**TRIPLE THREAT**

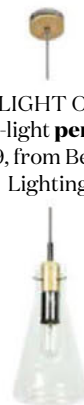
The very first episodes of *The Block* 2015 gave a taste of the fun to come. Here's the **living room challenge**.



COMFY COUCH  
Studio 2.5-seat **sofa** in Arena  
Neptune, \$999, from Freedom.



LIGHT ON  
Lab 1-light **pendant**,  
\$119, from Beacon  
Lighting.



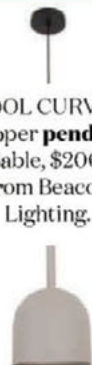
BEACHY VIBE  
Madras jute **rug** in  
Natural (1.2m x 1.8m),  
\$149, from Freedom.



TAKE A SEAT  
Replica Grant Featherston  
"Contour" **lounge chair**,  
\$1095, from Matt Blatt.



COOL CURVES  
Kooper **pendant**  
in Sable, \$206.10,  
from Beacon  
Lighting.



BLOCK COLOUR  
Lineum **cushion** in  
Linen (50cm x 50cm),  
\$39.95, from Freedom.

BUDGET BUY  
Replica Eames "DSW"  
**chair**, \$69, from  
Theblockshop.com.au



BEAUT BOWL  
Crease **bowl** in Aqua  
(30.5cm), \$41.89,  
from Freedom.



ON THE SIDE  
Amelia **side chair** in  
Aqua Blue, \$225, from  
Clickon Furniture.



ROUND IT GOES  
Moon **coffee table**  
(small), \$570, from  
Clickon Furniture.



FINE TO DINE  
Helsinki **dining**  
**chair**, \$149, from  
Dare Gallery.



LIMITED EDITION  
Katie McKinnon **art print**, from  
\$462, from Theblockshop.com.au

NATURAL TONES  
Husk **pendant** in  
Matt White/Ash,  
from \$89.96, from  
Beacon Lighting. **H+**





# WIN A \$30,000 KITCHEN\*

FROM THE GOOD GUYS • enter now at [kitchens.thegoodguys.com.au](http://kitchens.thegoodguys.com.au)



Find your closest showroom at [kitchens.thegoodguys.com.au](http://kitchens.thegoodguys.com.au) or call 1300 764 737



#### A DESIGNER VISITS YOU IN-HOME

You'll discuss and share ideas, designs, colours and finishes until you get it just right.



#### TOGETHER, YOU'LL PLAN UNTIL IT'S PERFECT

When you're ready to go ahead, we'll start drawing up your kitchen plans, to make sure you're 100% happy with the final design.



#### CHOOSING APPLIANCES TO MATCH

Ovens to cooktops, fridges to freezers, dishwashers to toasters, we'll recommend the best brand appliances to match your budget and new kitchen.



\*To enter go online to [kitchens.thegoodguys.com.au/win-a-kitchen](http://kitchens.thegoodguys.com.au/win-a-kitchen) between Tuesday 3 February 2015 and Sunday 10 May 2015, fill out all details on the entry form and in 50 words or less describe your perfect kitchen. Competition is open to Australian residents aged 18 years and over who own the premises in which the prize is to be installed. One entry permitted per person. Winner will be advised by no later than Monday 18 May 2015 by phone and email. If the prize winner is a resident of SA, WA, TAS, NT or lives outside 100km radius of a The Good Guys Kitchens store, the cabinetry, bench top and installation portions of the prize will be replaced with a cash prize of \$15,000. Winner will still be entitled to the appliance portion of the prize, valued up to \$5000RRP. The prize winner bears all responsibility for obtaining approvals and permissions necessary for installation of the prize. The major prize must be redeemed in full and as a package by 18/05/2016. For full terms & conditions go to [kitchens.thegoodguys.com.au/win-a-kitchen](http://kitchens.thegoodguys.com.au/win-a-kitchen) For The Good Guys Kitchens privacy policy go to [kitchens.thegoodguys.com.au](http://kitchens.thegoodguys.com.au) Images of kitchens for illustrative purposes only.







RENO SOLUTIONS

WITH CHERIE BARBER

# RENOVATING FOR PROFIT

***Exterior reno for \$5000!***

**Street appeal** is an important aspect to keep in mind when selling your home, says renovation expert **Cherie Barber**.

## ABOUT CHERIE

Cherie Barber is a renovator on TV's *The Living Room* and runs renovating-for-profit workshops. [Cheriebarber.com.au](http://Cheriebarber.com.au)

There are people who would never go to a job interview in thongs and a T-shirt, yet somehow seem to have a **blind spot when it comes to properties**. This is curious because I think a buyer is going to be just as harsh in their judgment as a discerning employer – and just as spoilt for choice. That's why **street appeal is so critical**.

**THIS MAKEOVER HIGHLIGHTS** all the problems with the original facade of this red-brick suburban house, and how they were addressed with **a few strategic fixes** that were done in under a week – and for around **\$5000 total**.

## SECURE THE PERIMETER

The broken remnants of an old steel fence were all that separated the front yard from the nature strip. By attaching the old aluminium roof sheets from the garden shed in the backyard, which was destined for demolition anyway, I now have a **physical barrier to the street** and a proper fence. I simply anchored the roof sheets to the existing metal frame, painted it with my spray gun and, hey presto, an instant fence for **less than a hundred bucks**.

## DEFINE THE DRIVEWAY

With no driveway, it was an open invitation for cars to drive straight in and park on the front lawn – never a classy look. **Compacted gravel** that was finished with two coats of Pour-On resin created a new driveway, which gave parking space for two cars. It's a DIY product that creates **a driveway at a fraction of the cost** of a concrete driveway. And I used those shed roof sheets again to close off the fence at the end of the driveway for a little more privacy.

## TIDY THE GARDEN

Scrappy garden beds and random tufts of greenery gave the impression of a neglected, unloved front yard. I made **new garden beds** from low-cost timber sleepers and added new plants, which I simply **recycled** from the overgrown jungle that was called the owner's backyard.

## RENDER THE BRICK

By far the biggest expense was rendering the ugly red-brick house with a terrific product called **Rockcote – a render and paint in one**. It cost around \$4000 to partially render the walls, but the uplift in value it achieved was close to triple that. I offset the charcoal colour of the house with a **light-grey paint** for the roof tiles, downpipes and guttering, and crisp off-white for the window frames.

## MAKE AN ENTRANCE

The final task was tackling the front porch. **Timber slat screening**, which I painted off-white, creates a sense of entry. Some **charcoal paving paint** for the bare concrete steps and landing ensures it blends in with the rest of the house. The suburban ugly duckling is now one of the **smartest-looking houses in the street**. ■

\* For more expert advice, visit [homesplusemag.com.au](http://homesplusemag.com.au)



## After

### Saving grace

A budget-friendly front-yard makeover gave this home the curb appeal it desperately needed.

### An extra touch

Installing a stylish timber screen is a great way to create privacy.

### At face value

A neat driveway and off-street parking add value to a property.

### On the fence

The fence was made from roof sheets salvaged from the house's old shed – another top money-saving idea.

## CHERIE'S TIPS

Stand on the opposite side of the street and take a long, hard, objective **look at your property**. Scrutinise every aspect as if you're looking at it for the first time, and you may **suddenly notice** those leaf-filled gutters, the peeling window frames and the scruffy garden beds.

## Before

### Plain as day

With little to work with, Cherie had to use her expertise to create an eye-catching home.

### The grass is greener

The large, grass-dominated yard lacked character and was in need of sprucing up.



# NEW THINGS

Enhance the look and feel of your home with these **beautiful new products**



**1 DOMAYNE** With a beautiful, artisanal feel, the Abstract dinner range gains inspiration from the trend for fashionable hand-crafted crockery. Domayne.com.au **2 TURKISH TOWELS** Lightweight, fast drying and compact. Perfect for the beach, boat or pool. 100% Turkish Cotton made in Turkey; \$29 each. Neds.net.au **3 NED'S** The beautiful Honeycomb glass drink dispenser and stand is perfect for summer-time entertaining; \$29. Neds.net.au **4 HAYMES** Celebrating originality, Haymes demonstrates a point of difference as an Australian family business producing quality paint. Haymespaint.com.au **5 ZANUI** The Scandinavian-inspired Sadie console table is both sleek and striking, and provides storage space suited to any room of your home; \$149.95. Zanui.com.au **6 HOWARDS STORAGE WORLD** The new and exclusive Neata shelving system can be customised to suit any space and is available in a range of colourways. Hsw.com.au **7 DOORS PLUS** Encased between two layers of clear safe glass, the Venetian range controls light and privacy in your home, also minimising noise and heat. Doorsplus.com.au **8 IKEA** Have a great night's sleep and explore your own style with playful pattern and colour combinations from the Ikea range of 100% cotton bedlinen. Ikea.com.au **9 LUXAFLEX** Evo Awnings can help save up to 60% off cooling costs in a typical year, giving homeowners a modern way to save money. Luxaflex.com.au **10 BUNNINGS** The Mimosa 5-piece Yen Tihn cement setting features a floral design which will complement your outdoor area; \$599. Bunnings.com.au **11 CASH CONVERTERS** It's amazing how quickly we grow out of the things we buy these days, but it's good to know that you can turn them into instant cash. Cashconverters.com.au **12 SPOTLIGHT** 100% cotton Ombre Blu quilt covers are the perfect balance of sophistication and practicality; from \$39.99. Spotlight.com.au



## OUR PET ISSUES

LISA'S  
PET  
ADVICE

Pets bring a lot of love and joy to the home but occasionally problems, too. But don't worry, **expert help** is at hand.

### I have bad allergies. What pet would you recommend for someone like me?

First, I recommend that you find out what animals you are actually allergic to – consider having an allergy test with a doctor. Generally, animals that shed less hair are usually less allergenic. Dogs like poodles, westies and Bichon Frisé have fluffy coats that barely shed. Most cats shed hair, so you could consider a short-haired cat like a Devon Rex, Cornish Rex or Sphynx.

### How regularly do I need to vaccinate my dogs and cats?

Puppies and kittens will need 2-3 rounds of vaccines, depending on the vaccine type, 4 weeks apart starting at 6-8 weeks of age. This is because they need to build up immunity after their maternal antibody levels have worn off. They will then require a booster at around 12 months of age, and then every 1-3 years for life depending on the vaccine type. If your pet is having vaccines every 3 years, it's still important to take them for an annual health check so that your vet can detect health problems early, which can often make treatment more effective.



### ABOUT LISA

Dr Lisa Chimes, pictured, is a vet at the Small Animal Specialist Hospital in Sydney and appears on TV's *Bondi Vet*.

### Labour of love

To avoid pet-behaviour problems, make sure to show your pets constant love and attention.

### My dog is driving me crazy by constantly licking her paws. What could be the cause of this?

It sounds like your dog has allergies. Licking and biting the feet is a sign of itchiness, often related to an allergic skin disease called atopic dermatitis, which is similar to eczema in people. It's really important to take her to your vet to find out what may be causing this, so that you can try eliminating the source. Your vet may refer you to a veterinary dermatologist who can perform skin testing to determine the exact allergens, and make a vaccine to help control the allergies long term. Your vet will also prescribe medication to stop the itching in the short term, which will make you both feel better. ■



### WIN

We're giving away 10 Purina Petlife Roadie harnesses! Turn to page 128 for details.

### Smelling nice

Why not spoil your pet with the soft and cuddly Petlife "Odour Resistant" blanket. It contains silver ion technology that helps kill the bad bacteria that causes nasty odours, making it a welcome addition to your home.

\* For more expert advice, visit [homesplusmag.com.au](http://homesplusmag.com.au)



KEEP WARM  
Petlife "Odour  
Resistant"  
blanket, \$59.99,  
from Pet Circle.



## ABOUT SCOTTY

Scotty Cam is a DIY legend, *The Block* host and top bloke. Plus, he's dad to Charlie, Sarah and Bill.

SCOTTY'S DIY

# TIMBER BLACKBOARD

Scotty Cam shows you how to make your own blackboard – it's just the thing for the whole family to leave messages on.

### BEGIN WITH:

- 1 565mm x 900mm MDF board
- 2 Blackboard paint
- 3 Pencil and tape measure
- 4 Lengths of timber (Scotty used 40mm pine)
- 5 Handsaw or drop saw
- 6 Hammer and nails
- 7 Drill and screws



### STEP-BY-STEP VIDEO

Use the free **viewa** app to scan this page and check out Scotty's how-to video for this great little blackboard project.



**STEP ONE** First, paint one side of your MDF board with blackboard paint. Leave it to dry while you knock up your timber frame.

**STEP TWO** Measure and mark your lengths of timber to create the four pieces that will become your frame. It needs to be slightly bigger than the board as it will sit on the face of the blackboard. I've made the outside of the frame measure 575mm x 910mm.

**STEP THREE** To make mitre joints, cut your timber at a 45° angle from the marked outside edges. I used a drop saw, as mitre joints can be difficult to cut if you don't have one. But you could use a mitre box or simply a butt joint if you aren't confident. You should now have two long and two short lengths of timber to make up your frame. It's important that the two top and two side pieces are exactly the same length, so you don't throw your dimensions out.

**STEP FOUR** Make your frame up on your bench and use nails around the outside edge to hold in position. Place your board, paint-side down, over the top of the frame. The board should be 5mm from each edge.

**STEP FIVE** Screw the board to the frame and hang. Now you have a blackboard for the kitchen where everyone can leave their messages! **H+**



PHOTOGRAPHY CHRIS WARNES

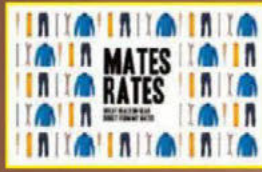
**DIFFICULTY RATING CHART** ➤ EASY AS 1, 2, 3 ➤➤ A BIT HARDER ➤➤➤ GET A FRIEND TO HELP YOU





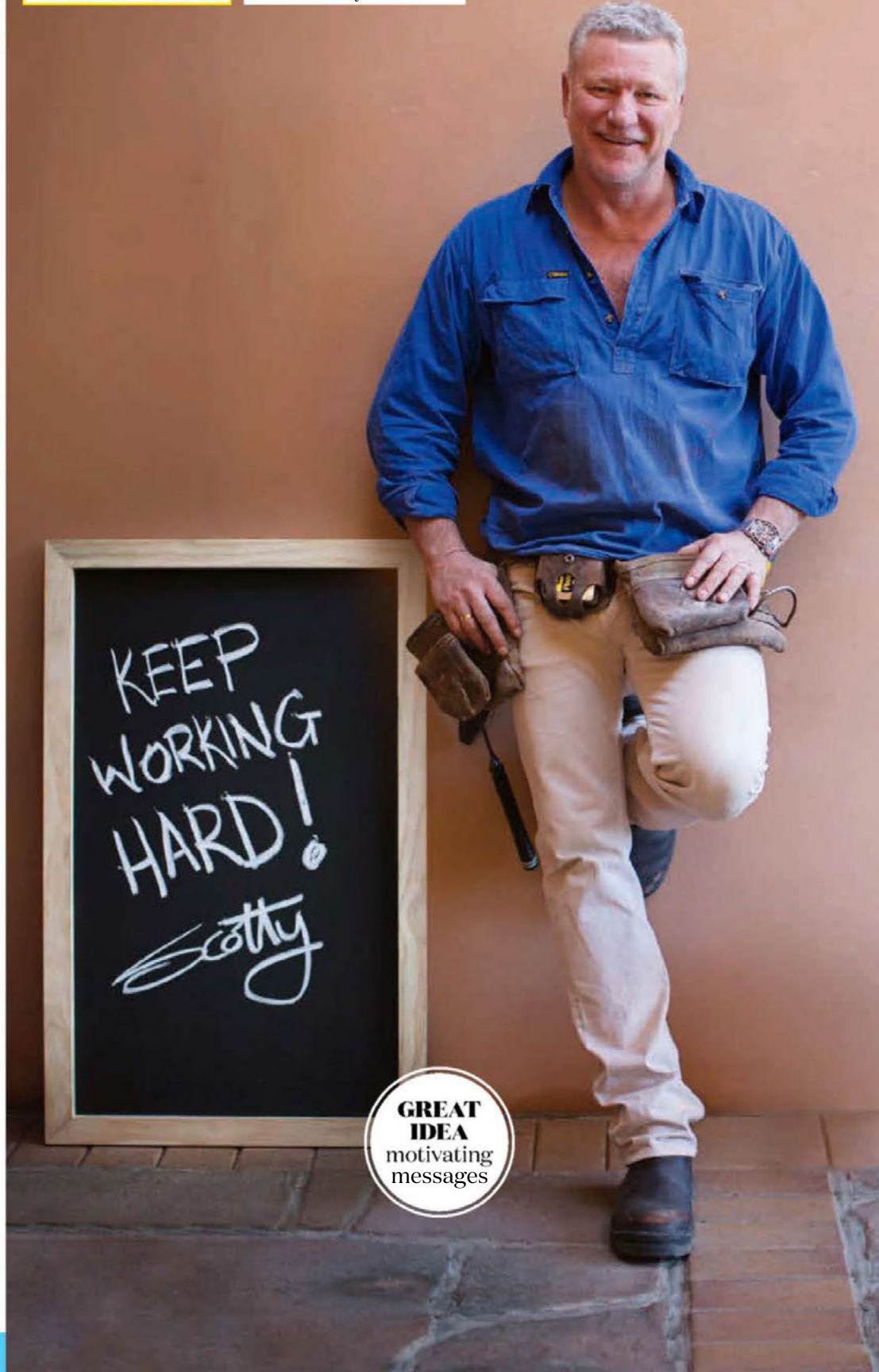
### TIP

**Make sure your board is nice and smooth and that you remove any dust before you start applying the blackboard paint.**



### I'll do you a deal

Check out Scotty's website under "Mates Rates" for great discounts on workwear and books. Head to [Scottycam.com.au](http://Scottycam.com.au)





## COMPETITION

# WIN! WIN! WIN!

## PRIZES TO BE WON

Keep your pets safe, organise your bathroom, stay dry and go on a holiday with these **prize picks**.

VALUE  
\$75

**PRIZE # 2**  
**BLUNT**

Win 1 of 5 high-tech  
Blunt XS Metro  
**compact umbrellas**,  
valued at \$75, from Blunt.  
Bluntumbrellas.com.au

**PRIZE # 1**  
**EVERLOC**

Win 1 of 10 Xpressions  
Dental Station suction-cup  
**bathroom organisers**,  
valued at \$42.94, from Everloc.  
Everloc.com.au

VALUE  
\$42.94

**PRIZE # 3**

**PURINA PETLIFE**

Win 1 of 10 Petlife **Roadie** pet  
**harnesses**, valued from \$39 to \$59  
and keep your furry friends safe  
when travelling in the car.  
Petlife.com.au/roadie

VALUE  
\$39-59



VALUE  
\$650

### TRAVEL GIVEAWAY

## WIN A STAY IN A HOLIDAY HOME!

We've got seven stays in the Aussie holiday home of your choice to be won this month, thanks to our friends at **Stayz**. Win one of the seven \$650 vouchers up for grabs, and you can put it towards any **Stayz** holiday accommodation of your choice.

See below for details on how to enter.

**FROM TOP** Rivermouth apartment, Tas;  
Lorne Beach Studio Apartments, Vic;  
A Lux Circle on Cavill, Qld.

## How to enter

To win the Everloc, Blunt or Purina Petlife prizes on this page, nominate which prize you would like to win and tell us in 25 words or less: **"What do you love most about autumn?"** To win a holiday home stay, tell us **"What does your family enjoy most about staying in holiday homes?"** in 25 words or less. In your entry, indicate which prize you would like, include your full name, postal address, telephone number, email address and age. There are three ways to enter:



### ENTER THE COMP

Use the free **viewa** app to scan  
this page to enter the competition.

1. **VISIT OUR WEBSITE**, [Homesplusmag.com.au](http://Homesplusmag.com.au)
2. **VIA VIEWA** See the **viewa** information below.
3. **WRITE TO US** at **homes+** March competition, GPO Box 4088, Sydney, 2000. Write the prize you would like on the back of the envelope and in your entry.

This is a game of skill, not a game of chance. The promotion closes at 23.59pm, (AEST) 22 March 2015. Entry is open to **homes+** magazine readers who are Australian residents aged 18 years and over only. Limit of one entry per prize permitted per person. If you do not want your information given to any organisation not associated with this promotion, please indicate this clearly on your entry. For full terms and conditions go to [Homesplusmag.com.au](http://Homesplusmag.com.au). See page 129 for Privacy Notice. The Promoter is Bauer Media Pty Ltd (ABN 18 053 273 546).





# WHERE TO BUY

THE WEBSITES PROVIDED BELOW ARE NOMINATED BY THE SUPPLIER AS THE NATIONAL CONTACT DETAILS FOR LOCATING YOUR NEAREST STOCKIST.

♦ INDICATES THAT THE SUPPLIER OFFERS ONLINE OR MAIL-ORDER SHOPPING OR ORDERING

**A Amalfi Homewares**  
Amalfihomewares.com.au  
**Angus & Celeste**  
Angusandceleste.com ♦  
**Appliances Online**  
Appliancesonline.com.au ♦  
**Aura by Tracie Ellis**  
Aurahome.com.au ♦

**B Beacon Lighting**  
Beaconlighting.com.au ♦  
**Beaumont Tiles**  
Beaumont-tiles.com.au  
**Bed Bath N' Table**  
Bedbathntable.com.au ♦  
**Bing Lee**  
Binglee.com.au ♦  
**Blunt Umbrellas**  
Bluntumbrellas.com ♦  
**Bunnings**  
Bunnings.com.au

**C Catch Of The Day**  
Catchoftheday.com.au ♦  
**Chocolate Wood**  
Chocolatewood.com.au ♦  
**Clickon Furniture**  
Clickonfurniture.com.au ♦

**D Dare Gallery**  
Daregallery.com.au ♦  
**David Jones**  
Davidjones.com.au ♦  
**Designstuff**  
Designstuff.com.au ♦  
**Di Lorenzo**  
Dilorenzo.net.au  
**Domayne**  
Domayneonline.com.au ♦  
**Dulux**  
Dulux.com.au ♦

**E Early Settler**  
Earlysettler.com.au ♦  
**Ebay**  
Ebay.com.au ♦  
**Eckersley's Art & Craft**  
Eckersleys.com.au ♦  
**Emily Ziz Style Studio**  
Emilysziz.com  
**Etsy**  
Etsy.com ♦  
**Eurowalls**  
Eurowalls.com.au ♦  
**Everloc**  
Everloc.com.au

**F Fantastic Furniture**  
Fantasticfurniture.com.au  
**Freedom**  
Freedom.com.au ♦  
**G Giant Swan**  
Giantswan.com.au ♦  
**Glasshouse Fragrances**  
Glasshousefragrances.com ♦  
**Godfreys**  
Godfreys.com.au ♦

**H H&M**  
Hm.com/au  
**Harvey Norman**  
Harveynorman.com.au ♦  
**Hawaiian Lion**  
Kawaiianlion.bigcartel.com ♦  
**Haymes**  
Haymespaint.com.au  
**Heaven In Earth**  
Heaveninearth.com.au ♦  
**Howards Storage World**  
Hsw.com.au ♦

**I Ikea**  
Ikea.com.au ♦ (SA, WA)

**K King Furniture**  
Kingfurniture.com.au ♦  
**Kmart**  
Kmart.com.au ♦

**L Lincraft**  
Lincraft.com.au ♦

**M Masters Home Improvement**  
Masters.com.au ♦  
**Matt Blatt**  
Mattblatt.com.au ♦  
**Maxwell & Williams**  
Maxwellandwilliams.com.au  
**Miele**  
Miele.com.au ♦  
**Mitre 10**  
Mitre10.com.au ♦  
**Murchison-Hume**  
Murchison-hume.com ♦  
**Murobond**  
Murobond.com.au ♦

**N No Chintz**  
Nochintz.com ♦

**O Officeworks**  
Officeworks.com.au ♦  
**One French Summer**  
Onefrenchsummer.com.au ♦  
**OZ Design Furniture**  
Ozdesignfurniture.com.au

**P Pet Circle**  
Petcircle.com.au ♦  
**Pillow Talk**  
Pillowtalk.com.au ♦  
**Poho Flowers**  
Poho.com.au ♦  
**Porter's Paints**  
Porterspains.com.au ♦  
**Pour-On**  
Pouron.com.au ♦  
**Purina Petlife**  
Petlife.com.au

**Q Quality Products Direct**  
Qualityproducts.com.au ♦

**R Rockcote**  
Rockcote.com.au

**S Salt&Pepper**  
Saltandpepper.com.au  
**Seventy Tree**  
Seventytreetree.bigcartel.com ♦  
**Smash Supplies**  
Smashsupplies.com.au ♦  
**Society6**  
Society6.com ♦  
**Sokol**  
Sokol.com.au ♦  
**Spotlight**  
Spotlight.com.au ♦  
**Stegbar**  
Stegbar.com.au  
**Supertex**  
Supertex.com.au ♦

**T Target**  
Target.com.au ♦  
**Taubmans**  
Taubmans.com.au  
**Tensens**  
Tensens.com.au ♦  
**The Block Shop**  
Theblockshop.com.au ♦  
**The Good Guys**  
Thegoodguys.com.au ♦  
**The Iconic**  
Theiconic.com.au ♦

**The Minimalist**  
Themminimalist.com.au ♦  
**The Shelving Shop**  
Shelvingshop.com.au ♦  
**Tradelink**  
Tradelink.com.au  
**Typo**  
Typoshop.com.au ♦

**U Utopia Goods**  
Utopiagoods.com ♦

**V Velux**  
Velux.com.au

**W West Elm**  
Westelm.com.au ♦  
**Westinghouse**  
Westinghouse.com.au ♦  
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MEDIA GROUP



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- \* See inside 4 beautiful homes
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- \* Delicious recipes for a month of meals
- \* DIY eggshell planters
- \* Make a picture board with Scotty Cam

PHOTOGRAPHY JAMES HENRY (LEATHER PLANT HOLDERS & PILLOW); CHRIS WARNES (SCOTTY); MAREE HOMER (HOME); BRENT WILSON (SUCCULENT EGGSHELL)

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